

EC summit begins after bomb hoax

DUBLIN (AP) — Leaders of the European Common Market nations began a summit meeting under extraordinary security Monday after an Irish guerrilla group said it planted a string of hoax bombs to underscore its threat to assassinate British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. Dublin police confirmed they found one device made of batteries and wires but said it was harmless. The package was discovered lying in a nearby street next to a manhole cover, a police spokesman said. The two-day summit is expected to concentrate on the trading bloc's internal problems, the outlook for warming East-West relations and the question of Spain and Portugal's entry into the 10-nation community. Irish police, sealed off the perimeter of the sprawling Dublin Castle in the city centre, where the leaders were holding their third and final summit of the year. A focus of special attention was Mrs. Thatcher, who narrowly escaped injury in an Irish Republican Army bombing of her hotel at Brighton, England, on Oct. 12.

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Israeli soldier wounded in Lebanon

TEL AVIV (R) — An Israeli soldier was wounded Monday by a bomb explosion in South Lebanon, a military spokesman said. A bomb planted on the Lebanese coastal road exploded as an Israeli army convoy passed near the village of Sarafand, he said.

Israeli police defuse Netanya bomb

TEL AVIV (R) — A large bomb, planted in the main shopping area of Israel's seaside resort town of Netanya, was defused safely Monday by police demolition experts, Israel Radio said. The report said police suspect that commandos were responsible for planting the explosives which had been hidden in a plastic bag and placed outside a clothing store. Police were called after passers-by had noticed the unattended bag.

West Bank university reopens

NABLUS, occupied West Bank (R) — The largest Palestinian university in the West Bank, An Najah University, reopened Monday after being closed for four months by Israeli occupation authorities. Israeli patrols stayed clear as the 3,500 students returned to the campus. Soldiers with binoculars watched from the top of a distant apartment block. An Najah was closed after troops entered the university last July and confiscated political pamphlets and toy guns which were on display in a Palestinian cultural exhibition.

Weinberger plans Saudi visit

RIYADH (AP) — U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger was reported Monday to planning a visit to Riyadh later this week for political and military cooperation talks with Saudi Arabian leaders. Official sources told the Associated Press that the U.S. secretary was to discuss with the Saudi leadership the latest developments in the Arab-Israeli conflict and a number of unspecified issues.

Warsaw Pact ministers in Budapest

BUDAPEST (AP) — Polish and East German delegations on Monday joined representatives of other Soviet-allied nations for a regular Warsaw Pact defence ministers' meeting, the official MTI news agency reported. No starting date or other details have been announced for the 17th Warsaw Pact defence ministers' session.

Bomb explodes in West Beirut

BEIRUT (AP) — A bomb went off under a BMW car at west Beirut's Commodore Street Sunday night causing extensive damage to the vehicle but no casualties, police said. The blast shattered windows of nearby cars and apartment buildings, police said. Bombings and thefts persisted in the capital despite a week-old security plan enforced by the Lebanese army.

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Joint statement, stressing PLO role, calls for international conference Egypt, Jordan agree on concept of 'land for peace'

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

AMMAN — Jordan and Egypt agreed Monday on the need for an international conference under United Nations auspices to find a solution to the Palestinian problem and that the principle of "land in exchange for peace" was the best viable means of achieving a just solution.

A joint communique issued at the end of a three-day state visit to Egypt by Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor who returned to Amman Monday evening, said: "The two sides agreed on the importance of convening an international conference for peace under UN supervision in which all concerned parties should participate, including the Palestine

Liberation Organisation (PLO)." The communique voiced all-out support for the PLO and said the King and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak were bent on "achieving the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people including their inalienable right to self-determination in the form they see fit."

The communique said King

Hussein and Mr. Mubarak "rejected Israel's expansionist policy and its settlement-building" in the occupied West Bank and Gaza. "The Egyptian side has expressed its support for the Jordanian-Palestinian formula which King Hussein submitted to the Palestine National Council (PNC) in... Amman to reach the required peaceful settlement and calls for all other Arab states to declare their support on this formula," it said. "The two sides agreed that the time has come for the Arab Nation to join efforts to regain usurped rights, and that it is of great importance, from the standpoint of collective responsibility, to work seriously and persistently on achieving effective Arab solidarity which would support the principles enshrined in numerous resolutions, whether those emanating from the United Nations or regional organisations," the

communique said. "In this context, United Nations Security Council Resolution 242, passed in November 19 which established the principle of 'inadmissibility of acquisition of territories by force,' and 'land for peace,' forms together with the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, the sound basis for the achievement of a just, peaceful settlement of the Middle East problem which would take into account the legitimate rights of all parties," it continued. "The two sides agreed on the importance of continued consultations, and the necessity for joint action and coordination of efforts in the Arab and international spheres. "The two sides agreed on the need for exerting the utmost efforts to the end of realising a complete, unrestricted and unhindered Israeli withdrawal from (Continued on page 3)

Senate endorses King's call for Jordanian-Palestinian initiative

By Salameh B. Ne'matt Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Upper House of Parliament (Senate) announced Monday its absolute and full support of the national policy adopted by His Majesty King Hussein within "Jordan's march to serve the Arab Nation's decisive issues."

In a statement issued at the end of its session, the Senate urged the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee to respond positively to the King's call for joint political moves, contained in his speech opening the 7th session of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Amman on Nov. 22.

After reviewing the King's speech to the Palestinian parliament, the Senate announced its full support of the policies adopted by the King "aimed at serving the Arab Nation at this critical stage of the Palestinian cause passes through."

The House called for coordinating Arab efforts to "confront Israeli aggressive plans and liberate the occupied territories."

In its statement, the 30-member House urged Arab countries to bypass their differences and unify their ranks and stands "to confront the danger threatening the future of the Arab Nation."

Senate member Zaid Rifa'i delivered a speech earlier in the session in which he said that King Hussein's address to the PNC on Nov. 22 was "the most important political speech witnessed in the last 10 years in recent Arab history."

He said that the King's speech came in the midst of "the state of loss and darkness in the Arab World to develop a clear vision." He said the main idea in the King's speech circled around the liberation of land occupied by Israel.

Mr. Rifa'i said the King was able to dismiss "elements of falsification and slander and developed a clear and honest policy."

"It is our duty as citizens in this country not to be satisfied with words but to carry our own responsibilities and stand behind the King and march with him towards victory and liberation," Mr. Rifa'i said.

The Senate later endorsed an Administrative Committee decision in regards a petition referred to the committee by Speaker Ahmad Lawzi on secondary phase admission examinations for students. It decided to refer the petition to the Education and Social Services Committee and the Administrative Committee to study the issue in preparation to adopt appropriate resolutions.

Monday's session was presided over by Mr. Lawzi and attended by Acting Prime Minister Ahmad Tarawneh and a number of cabinet members.

At the beginning of the session, the Senate approved a resolution by the Legal Committee regarding 12 laws issued by the Lower House of Parliament.

It also endorsed a decision by the Financial Committee regarding four provisional laws referred to the Senate by the Lower House. The Education Committee elected Mr. Thoghan Hindawi as rapporteur of the committee.

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Ahmad Obeidat

Obeidat urges U.S. pressure on Israel

ISMAILIA (Agencies) — Jordan called Monday on the United States to press Israel to evacuate all occupied Arab territories.

"Jordan urges the United States to abide by principles and to shoulder its responsibility as a superpower by respecting and implementing international resolutions... so there can be a total (Israeli) withdrawal and an overall peace," Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat told reporters.

Mr. Obeidat, accompanying His Majesty King Hussein on a visit to Egypt, said King Hussein's three days of talks in Egypt had been designed "to try and build up an Arab position," towards peace moves and that Jordan hoped recent contacts between the King and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat would lead to fresh diplomatic moves "on the international level."

The prime minister said the Soviet Union had a "fundamental role" to play in any future Middle East settlement and disclosed that Jordan would soon sign a final agreement to purchase more Soviet air defence weapons after President Ronald Reagan withdrew an offer to provide Stinger missiles amid criticism from Congress and the Israelis.

King Hussein's current visit to Egypt is one in a series of Jordanian-Egyptian meetings aimed at pursuing the talks King Hussein and President Mubarak had started during the Egyptian leader's visit to Jordan October 9 to 11, Mr. Obeidat said.

He added that King Hussein's visit to Egypt is part of "a responsible effort on the part of the two leaders at this critical stage in a serious endeavour to find means and ways for making further contacts with Arab brethren to build a unified Arab stand."

The restoration of relations between Jordan and Egypt takes a well-studied and organised form, he said and expressed hope that the forthcoming meetings of the Joint Jordanian-Egyptian Committee in April will come up with a plan of action aimed at strengthening relations between the two countries.



Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor are seen off from Cairo airport Sunday by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and his wife upon the end of a three-day visit the King and Queen paid in Egypt (Petra photo)

Arafat: PNC marked new driving force for Palestinian struggle

AMMAN (J.T.) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat said Monday that the convening of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Amman marked a "new driving force, enhancing the Palestinian political and military revolution."

He said holding the session in Amman after 20 years from the first one in Jerusalem was of "great significance" and reaffirmed the "unique relationship binding the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples."

Speaking to reporters before his departure from Amman at the end of a two-week visit to attend the 17th session of the PNC, Mr. Arafat said that the session "yielded good results on the political front, far exceeding expectations and fulfilling the aspirations of the Palestinian people."

The PNC meeting also indicated that the PLO will shortly embark on very important actions in cooperation with Arab states and in line with the Jordanian national stands as expressed by His Majesty King Hussein in his speech to the PNC session and his address to the Egyptian parliament Sunday, Mr. Arafat said.

He said along with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak the King expressed appreciation for the "positive results produced by the PNC session on the Palestinian and Arab fronts."

Mr. Arafat said that the PLO Executive Committee has laid down a plan for future moves during its meetings in Amman and the committee will follow up and coordinate the implementation of the plan in talks with Jordanian leaders so that "both sides can make similar steps in the long march towards the liberation of Palestine."

He was seen off upon departure by Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Shawka Mahmoud and Foreign Ministry and PLO officials. Accompanying Mr. Arafat were PNC members Hani Al Hassan, Rafiq Al Natshe, Fahd Al Qawasme, Jweid Al Ghusseini and Arafat Hijazi.

Reuters reported the PLO leaders' arrival in the Saudi capital of Riyadh. The agency, quoting the Saudi Press Agency, said that they went into immediate talks with Saudi Arabia's King Fahd.

It gave no further details, but a PLO spokesman in Amman said earlier that Mr. Arafat was touring Arab countries to brief their leaders on the outcome of the PNC.

Other PLO officials would visit Islamic and non-aligned capitals for the same purpose, he said.

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Murphy to return to Mideast

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy is returning to the Middle East this week to attempt to break a deadlock in negotiations aimed at an Israeli troop withdrawal from southern Lebanon, officials said Monday. A State Department official, who spoke on condition he not be identified, said the trip reflects increased American involvement in the negotiations, although he stopped short of calling it a mediation effort. Mr. Murphy will visit Israel, Lebanon and Syria, and probably also Jordan and Egypt, the official said. He added that Mr. Murphy will stay in the Middle East as long as seems useful and could make other stops in the area. In addition to Lebanon, the official said Mr. Murphy also will discuss the prospects for over-all Arab-Israeli peace negotiations. Mr. Murphy spent several weeks in the Middle East last month in what was described as "a fact-finding mission" on the issue of an Israeli troop withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

330 killed, 10,000 injured in gas leak at Indian plant

NEW DELHI (Agencies) — At least 330 people were killed and 10,000 injured when poisonous gas leaked from a pesticides factory in the central Indian city of Bhopal and doctors said the final toll could exceed 600.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency quoted Madhya Pradesh State Health Minister Rewanath Chaurse as saying 302 deaths had been reported at the city's Hamidia hospital.

PTI also quoted staff at two other hospitals as saying 33 of some 4,000 badly gassed victims had died.

The disaster struck shortly after midnight when most residents were asleep.

Gas started seeping out of an underground storage tank at the factory, which is owned by the Indian subsidiary of the U.S. Union Carbide company and produces pesticides for agriculture.

Police put a cordon round Bhopal, stopping trains, planes and vehicles from entering. Hospitals treated hundreds of victims on lawns because no more beds were available.

The state government arrested five officials of the American-based multinational corporation on charges of causing death by negligence and investigators of the Central Bureau of Investigation rushed to the scene to determine the cause of the leakage.

Indian President Zail Singh and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi expressed shock at the tragedy. "Such mishaps must not be allowed to recur," Mr. Gandhi said as he sanctioned \$400,000 as relief for the victims' families.

Union Carbide Managing Director Y.P. Gokhale said in Bombay that the gas, methyl isocyanide, leaked when a valve on the underground storage tank broke under rising pressure inside. It spread to an area of about 40 square kilometres.

Mr. Gokhale said there was no further leakage and the situation was under control. He described the leak as an "unfortunate accident," UNI said.

The leak was controlled by 0140 a.m. (2010 GMT) and there were no casualties inside the factory, he said.

People up to 10 kilometres from the factory woke up coughing violently, choking and struggling for breath. They also suffered inflamed eyes and vomiting.

"My neighbour ran in and said it was a nuclear bomb," Mrs. Madhu Mishra, professor of home science at Bhopal University, told Reuters by telephone.

Mrs. Mishra joined thousands of people in a frantic dash to a hill in the centre of the town to get away from the fumes.

"It was gruesome, a nightmare," she said. "There were about 8,000 or 9,000 people on the road in the dead of night all heading for the hill."

"There were cars, bicycles, auto rickshaws, anything that would move on the road trying to get up the hill. I saw people just collapsing by the side of the road."

Mrs. Mishra said one of the most horrifying sights was people blinded by the fumes stumbling into each other and falling over in pitch darkness.

The sources said the Minotaur, whose engine room was set on fire by a single missile, was in ballast. It was chartered last week from just outside the Gulf, off the port of Fujairah in the United Arab Emirates.

Able to carry more than 380,000 tonnes of oil, the Minotaur is bigger than the Saudi Arabian supertanker Safina Al Arab, which had 340,000 tonnes of crude oil on board when it was hit after loading oil at Kharg on April 25.

Lloyd's Register of Shipping shows the Minotaur, built in 1976 and previously known as the Shatt Al Arab, recently changed from Iraqi registration and ownership. It is now owned by Moon Field Shipping.

The last strike was on Oct. 19, when a rocket, apparently from an Iranian plane, hit the 1,530-ton Pacific Protector, a diving support ship, some 60 miles off the coast of Qatar. Three crewmen were killed.

Cypriot tanker left ablaze as Iraqis end lull in attacks

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — A Cypriot supertanker heading for Iran to load oil was hit by a missile and left blazing in the Gulf Monday, ending a six-week lull in attacks on shipping in the Iran-Iraq war.

Shipping sources said three of the 27-man crew aboard the ship, the 392,543 deadweight ton tanker Minotaur, were missing after the attack, which occurred about 40 miles south of the main Iranian oil terminal of Kharg Island.

In Baghdad, an Iraqi military spokesman said Iraqi jets had hit a "large naval target" Monday south of the Iranian island oil terminal, and said the mission aimed to continue the blockade of Kharg Island and other Iranian ports.

Iran, which depends on income from oil to finance its four-year-old war with Iraq, has recently launched a big effort to sell

more oil. Diplomats in Tehran estimate Iran's oil exports have more than doubled over the last two months to more than two million barrels a day, helped by the hiatus in shipping attacks.

The shipping sources said they thought the Minotaur was the largest vessel hit so far in the Gulf shipping war.

They said at least three salvage tugs were believed to be heading towards the Minotaur, the 43rd merchant vessel to have been hit in attacks this year by Iran and Iraq.

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4 diplomatic cars booby trapped in Athens

Iraqi embassy car blows up killing disposal expert

ATHENS (R) — A car belonging to the Iraqi embassy blew up here Monday, killing a bomb disposal expert, police said.

Bombs were also found under three other cars belonging to the embassy — two outside the embassy building and another near the house of an embassy employee.

Police abandoned attempts to defuse the three others and evacuated the surrounding areas, a police spokesman said.

First reports by police sources said the car near the employee's house had blown up but a police spokesman later denied this.

Police were looking for a fifth Iraqi embassy car believed to be circulating in Athens with its occupants apparently unaware that it

could be booby-trapped.

The driver of the car which blew up noticed a bomb underneath when he was filling up with petrol at a garage, police sources said.

Police evacuated the area and sent a bomb disposal expert to investigate. The car blew up almost immediately, killing him instantly.

There have been several violent incidents, apparently politically inspired, in Athens in the last fortnight.

On Thursday, a young man tried to shoot the second-ranking diplomat at the Jordanian emb-

assy but fled after his gun jammed. Five bombs went off during the night of Nov. 22-23 and a sixth device was found before exploding at a French Cultural Institute.

On Saturday a large bomb was found and defused near a platform where conservative opposition leader Constantine Mitsotakis was about to address a rally.

A police spokesman identified the dead man as Voannis Kotsis, 54, a civilian bomb disposal expert.

No extremist organisation immediately claimed responsibility for placing the three bombs.

Athens police last week received hundreds of calls warning of bomb attacks, but all were found to be hoaxes.



Bomb disposal experts investigate the remains of an Iraqi embassy car which exploded Monday killing a bomb disposal expert who was trying to defuse a home-made explosive (AP wirephoto)

Sharon was warned of massacres

TEL AVIV (R) — An Israeli army reserve major has said he warned former Defence Minister Ariel Sharon only days before a massacre of Palestinians in Beirut in 1982 that civilians were liable to be slaughtered in Lebanon.

Maj. Nahum Menachem was testifying for the defence in the Jerusalem district court as part of Mr. Sharon's libel suit against Time magazine. His testimony was filmed to be shown in the New York court where the case is being heard.

Maj. Menachem, speaking through an interpreter, said he gave the warning at a meeting with Sharon on Sept. 12, 1982. Four days later Mr. Sharon ordered Lebanese Falangist militiamen to enter two Beirut refugee camps

where they killed at least 500 Palestinian civilians.

Mr. Sharon, now trade and industry minister, is suing the U.S. news magazine for \$500 million for saying he instigated the massacre in revenge for the assassination of Lebanese President-Elect Bashir Gemayal.

Maj. Menachem, then serving as Israeli military governor of the Shouf Mountain district in Lebanon, told the court: "I explained to Sharon there may be a terrible slaughter. There were tensions, fights, confrontations between the communities in Lebanon at the time, everyone could sense the hatred."

Maj. Menachem said he referred to the possibility of bloodshed between Falangists and

Palestinians and Mr. Sharon ignored his warning.

"He patted me on the shoulder and said there was nothing to worry about and everything would be all right," he said.

Maj. Menachem is one of five witnesses testifying as part of the case. Attorney-General Yitzhak Zamir turned down Time's request to question another five important witnesses and to see several secret documents.

Maj. Menachem said he was told by Israeli security authorities not to reveal certain facts during his testimony.

He said he had given Mr. Sharon several examples of Falangist attacks on civilians of other communities but the defence minister said he was familiar with them.

Israeli posts in Lebanon reportedly worry Syria

By Ethan Bronner

JEBEL BAROUK, Lebanon — This cloud-draped mountain ridge is a major reason why Syria wants a deal over withdrawal from southern Lebanon, Israeli officials say.

With antennae and satellite dishes jutting from all sides, the 2,000-metre Jebel Barouk (blessed mountain) — the highest point in southern Lebanon — is a key Israeli listening post.

It is also one of three points from which the Israelis could swoop on the Beirut-Damascus Highway, cutting off the Lebanese capital from the Syrian capital and splitting the Syrian forces from their supply and command centre.

This threat, more than anything else, is what worries Syria, an Israeli intelligence colonel named Benny told Israeli-based correspondents visiting the eastern front.

Israel has made clear in troop withdrawal negotiations with Lebanon that it wants United Nations (U.N.) troops to take over this area when it leaves. The talks, at U.N. troop headquarters in southern Lebanon, have been moving slowly, but Israel remains convinced that a deal will be struck with Syrian backing.

Syria backs the talks, Israeli officials believe, because Damascus wants to get Israeli soldiers out of the eastern front where they have a dramatic strategic advantage.

Israel has hinted it will withdraw its troops from the Western sector, where they suffer Shiite guerrilla attacks, and leave soldiers and artillery dug in here in the east if talks fail. Israeli troops in the east have far fewer worries about guerrillas because the Syrians do not let Palestinian commandos penetrate the lines except for an occasional probing manoeuvre.

Col. Benny said the Syrians

acted in that way because of Israel's ability to retaliate by taking the Beirut-Damascus Highway, only four kilometres from Israeli lines.

The Israeli advantage on this ridge of the anti-Lebanon mountain range is so great that Col. Benny said withdrawal would be equivalent to giving up the Golan Heights, which Israel won from Syria in 1967 and says it will never leave.

"It of course depends on any political settlement, but from a purely military point of view our positions here are vital," he said. "Jebel Barouk is the watershed of southern Lebanon."

At Jebel Barouk, the meaning of the colonel's words become self-evident. The Souf Mountains can be seen on one side and the entire Bekaa Valley to the other. Villages dozens of kilometres away are visible. With binoculars, troop formations can be seen.

With electronic surveillance, say the Israelis, communications and movements in Turkey and even Soviet Union can be followed.

Israel says 60 per cent of Syria's armed forces are struck in the Bekaa Valley facing Israeli troops and artillery, and that the Syrian forces include 1,100 tanks, 600 armoured personnel carriers and 550 artillery pieces.

And while the Syrians have improved their forces considerably and developed better supplies as they enter their third winter here, the troops are effectively wasted.

Syria has a host of regional concerns, especially the Palestinian question and ties renewed recently between Egypt and Jordan.

Israeli officials say keeping so many troops and so much equipment in the hills of eastern Lebanon is proving an extraordinarily costly undertaking to Syria, whose economy they say is in crisis.

Jordan, Spain discuss Mideast

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan's endeavours to achieve a just and durable peace in the area, the United Nations (U.N.) resolutions on the Palestine question and the latest developments of the Palestine question were reviewed here during a meeting on Monday between 45 member Spanish delegation and Director of the Political Department at the Foreign Ministry Sultan Luthi.

The delegation, representing political and cultural sectors in Spain, arrived here Sunday on an eight-day visit to Jordan during which they will hold talks with Jordanian officials and tour a number of archaeological and tourist sites. They will also visit Baqa'a Palestinian refugee camp.

Ministers propose Palestinian passports

TUNIS, Tunisia (AP) — Arab interior ministers meeting here have decided to submit to a special Arab League committee a suggestion that a Palestinian passport be created.

The decision was taken Sunday after being submitted to the meeting by the Palestinian delegation led by Hayel Abdelhamid, in charge of Palestinian security questions.

Arab League sources said the proposed passport would carry the words "Arab League — Palestine Liberation Organisation" on its cover, to give it official Arab status.

By Christopher Hanson

London — Western nations have been drawn into repeated conflicts with Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi but there is no consensus on how to deal with what some have termed a "rogue government" in Tripoli.

The realistic options are very limited. Western diplomats say: Economic sanctions are unlikely to work, military attack would be hard to justify in the absence of a dire provocation, and milder responses have so far been ignored by the volatile Libyan who sees himself as natural leader of the Arab World.

France has accused Col. Qadhafi of breaking his word by keeping troops in Chad after agreeing to a Franco-Libyan withdrawal. Libyan involvement in Chad's civil war has caused serious African concern.

Egypt says Col. Qadhafi sent a team of assassins who bungled a bid to kill an exiled politician in Cairo, and has charged that Libya sowed mines in the Red Sea last summer.

Britain broke ties with Libya in April after accusing Libyans inside the London People's Bureau

(embassy) of shooting dead a policewoman. Washington says Libya is an international troublemaker and funds terrorism around the world.

But to many Libyans and a few other Arab and Muslim nations, Col. Qadhafi is a revolutionary hero revered for his apparent devotion to religious and populist ideals and for using Libya's oil wealth to help the poor.

Col. Qadhafi told a U.S. television interviewer last week that he was greatly misunderstood in the West and had always opposed terrorism. He described President Reagan and Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres as "terrorists and war criminals."

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U.S. officials say they have failed to interest Western allies in joint diplomatic or economic sanctions.

Western diplomats say Tripoli was caught off-balance when Bri-

tain broke ties and has felt some pressure as a result of U.S. economic sanctions imposed after Mr. Reagan took office.

But Washington has not banned all trade with Libya, which is an important trading partner for Western Europe. U.S. officials say the United States and its European allies do four billion dollars worth of business annually with Libya.

In addition to the high economic stakes, there are many European workers in Libya — including an estimated 15,000 Italians and 8,000 Britons — who could be put at risk if sanctions were imposed, the diplomats say.

Some psychologists and Middle Eastern and West European officials have argued for years that the best way of dealing with Col. Qadhafi is to ignore him and his militant ideology.

They said Washington paid far too much attention to the flamboyant leader, exaggerating his military power, making him harder to deal with. Some U.S. officials now agree.

But Qadhafi-watchers in the Western diplomatic corps fear it is too late for a policy of studied indifference.

Papandreou calls for Palestinian state

BEIRUT (R) — Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou has said Greece supports the right of the Palestinians to an independent state.

Interviewed in this week's issue of the London-based Lebanese magazine As-Sayid, Mr. Papandreou said: "Just as Israel has the right to live as a state within secure borders, so must the Palestinian people also have the right to build their state within secure boundaries."

"Until this is realised, it will not be possible to establish genuine peace in the Middle East," he added.

Mr. Papandreou said Greece condemned Israel's occupation of Arab land and its 1982 invasion of Lebanon. He said Greece thought the Lebanese crisis could be treated best as part of an overall Middle East settlement.

Zaben, broadcasting team hold talks on Arab satellite

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Communications and Chairman of the General Assembly of the Arab Satellite Communication Organisation (Arabsat) Mohammed Adoub Al Zaben Monday discussed with delegation representing Arab Broadcasting Services Union (ABSU), issues concerning information services to be provided by Arab satellite once it is launched.

It was agreed in principle to start utilising of the Arab satellite by Arab information ministries during the commissioning period which follows its launching in February 1985.

Participants in the meeting also decided to study a request by the Arab Broadcasting Union to

make contacts during the commissioning period free of charge and to consider a reduced tariff for the following stage; in addition to discussing reduced local tariffs in Arab states.

They also decided to list these subjects on the agenda of the General Assembly's forthcoming session next April.

Taking part in the meeting were Director of Jordan Broadcasting Corporation Nassouh Al Majali, Director-General of the Jordanian News Agency, Petra Jawad Maraqa, Telecommunications Director-General Mohammad Shahid Ismail and the director of the technical department at the Jordan Television.

Kurds kill Iranian governor

TEHRAN (R) — Ehsan Bagheri, district governor of Divadareh in north west Iran, was shot dead last Saturday by "atheist groups" — a term used to describe Kurdish rebels, the Tehran newspaper

Kayhan reported.

It said Mr. Bagheri, the latest of a string of assassinations by the autonomy-seeking Kurds, was killed while travelling by road from Divadareh to Sanandaj.

Western nations baffled on how to deal with Qadhafi

By Christopher Hanson

London — Western nations have been drawn into repeated conflicts with Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi but there is no consensus on how to deal with what some have termed a "rogue government" in Tripoli.

The realistic options are very limited. Western diplomats say: Economic sanctions are unlikely to work, military attack would be hard to justify in the absence of a dire provocation, and milder responses have so far been ignored by the volatile Libyan who sees himself as natural leader of the Arab World.

France has accused Col. Qadhafi of breaking his word by keeping troops in Chad after agreeing to a Franco-Libyan withdrawal. Libyan involvement in Chad's civil war has caused serious African concern.

Egypt says Col. Qadhafi sent a team of assassins who bungled a bid to kill an exiled politician in Cairo, and has charged that Libya sowed mines in the Red Sea last summer.

Britain broke ties with Libya in April after accusing Libyans inside the London People's Bureau

(embassy) of shooting dead a policewoman. Washington says Libya is an international troublemaker and funds terrorism around the world.

But to many Libyans and a few other Arab and Muslim nations, Col. Qadhafi is a revolutionary hero revered for his apparent devotion to religious and populist ideals and for using Libya's oil wealth to help the poor.

Col. Qadhafi told a U.S. television interviewer last week that he was greatly misunderstood in the West and had always opposed terrorism. He described President Reagan and Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres as "terrorists and war criminals."

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ting attention and reacts worse when he doesn't," said one. He said that when Col. Qadhafi had been out of the news for some time, one could expect a Libyan bombshell that would get his name back in the headlines.

The diplomats say Col. Qadhafi's mercurial personality is a serious obstacle to engaging him in dialogue and winning him over, as France has tried, to its embarrassment, and as King Hassan of Morocco tried in a largely symbolic union with Libya last summer.

Many Western diplomats expect the unity bid to fall apart, like periodic rapprochements between Libya and other neighbours.

Dialogue may once have worked, the U.S. diplomat said, but now Col. Qadhafi is a "lost cause" who, according to Western intelligence sources, swings between lucidity and incoherence, serenity and anger.

The conservative U.S. Heritage Foundation is among groups which have suggested military intervention against Libya.

West European military action is extremely unlikely, Western diplomats say.

A military option has been discussed in U.S. government circles.

and a U.S. Rapid Deployment Force might be in a position to carry out an attack, but American intervention is also unlikely, the U.S. diplomat said.

It might become more probable if Libyan forces drove deep into Chad and threatened Sudan and Niger, diplomats said. But Heino Kopietz, a Middle East analyst with the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) in London, said Libya was not a great military power, more of an irritant in the area.

A bid to kill Col. Qadhafi would be a big mistake, diplomats said, and David Wilkinson, a University of Aberdeen expert on Libya and terrorism, amplified this point: "Killing Qadhafi would create a halo effect (in) a new generation who see him as a martyr."

Problems for the West would increase significantly if Col. Qadhafi, who is seeking nuclear technology, were to get atomic weapons. Many Libya-watchers say this is a distant threat.

Even if he never acquires nuclear bombs, the U.S. Libya expert said, Col. Qadhafi — who at 42 could be in power for decades — will probably be causing trouble for Western nations for a long time to come.

TV & RADIO

WHAT'S GOING ON

FOR THE TRAVELLER

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

<div>JORDAN TELEVISION</div> <div> <div>MAIN CHANNEL</div> <div> 17:00 Karan 17:15 Children's Programme 18:25 Sport 19:40 News Programme 20:00 News in Arabic 20:30 Local Programme 21:15 Arabic Series (weekly) 22:30 Prophet's Birthday Celebration 23:00 "Message" (Religious film) 23:10 Celebration Continues </div> </div> <div> <div>FOREIGN CHANNEL</div> <div> 18:00 French Programme 19:30 News in French 19:30 News in Hebrew 20:00 News in Arabic 20:30 Tom, Dick & Harriet 21:00 "Message" (Religious film) 22:00 News in English 22:15 Film Continues </div> </div> <div> <div>RADIO JORDAN</div> <div> 855 KHz, AM & 90 MHz, FM & partly on 95.60 KHz, SW </div> <div> 07:00 Light Music 07:30 News Desk 08:00 Morning Show 08:30 News Summary 10:00 Morning Show 11:00 Pop Session 12:00 News Summary 12:30 Pop Session 13:00 News Summary 14:00 News Bulletin 14:15 Instrumental 14:30 Science Fiction 15:00 Concert Hour 16:00 News Summary 16:30 Instrumental 16:30 Old Favorites 17:00 Science Report 17:30 Pop Session 18:00 News Summary 18:05 Tap Twenty 19:00 Newsdesk 19:30 Date with a Star 20:00 Evening Show 21:00 News Summary 21:05 Evening Show 21:55 News Summary 22:00 News Headlines 23:00 Evening Show 24:00 News Headlines </div> </div> <div> <div>BBC WORLD SERVICE</div> <div> 634, 720, 1413 KHz 06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 Incredible Pla- </div> </div>	<div> <div>WHAT'S GOING ON</div> <div> <div>TODAY'S EVENTS</div> <div> <div>EXHIBITIONS</div> <div> * An art exhibition entitled "Medieval" by Hussein Da'esh at 5 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre (until Dec. 5) * An art exhibition by Saïb Abu Shandi (drawings and paintings) at the Royal Cultural Centre from Dec. 1-6 * An art exhibition by the Egyptian artist Na'im Jaber, at the hall of Petra Bank general administration until Dec. 8 </div> </div> <div> <div>BAZAAR</div> <div> * Turkish welfare bazaar at Hussein Youth City, organised by the YWCA </div> </div> <div> <div>VIDEO</div> <div> * Video films, 4:30 at French Cultural Centre </div> </div> <div> <div>LECTURE</div> <div> * The star of the Messiah, a lecture by Prof. August Strobel, in cooperation with Goethe Institute, at 7:00 p.m. at the Institute for the Archaeology of the Holy Land Amman </div> </div> <div> <div>CONCERT</div> <div> * A classical concert by an Italian group at 8:00 p.m., main theatre, Royal Cultural Centre. </div> </div> <div> <div>CULTURAL CENTRES</div> <div> Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267 American Centre 44371 American Centre Library 41520 British Council 36147.8 French Cultural Centre 37009 Goethe Institute 41993 Soviet Cultural Centre 24049 Spanish Cultural Centre 39777 Turkish Cultural Centre 37009 Haya Arts Centre 665195 Hussein Youth City 667181 Y.W.C.A. 41793 Y.W.M.A. 66425 Amman Municipal Library 36111 University of Jordan Library 843555 </div> </div> <div> <div>MUSEUMS</div> <div> Folklore Museum: Jewelry and cos- </div> </div> </div> </div> <div> <div>FOR THE TRAVELLER</div> <div> <div>AMMAN AIRPORT</div> <div> This information is supplied by Alia Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 33258, where it should always be verified. </div> </div> <div> <div>ARRIVALS</div> <div> 06:50 Cairo (MS) 07:30 Amman (SU) 08:30 Dubai (RJ) 09:45 Kuwait (RJ) 09:45 Jeddah (RJ) 09:45 Cairo (RJ) 10:00 Dhahran (RJ) 10:00 Muscat, Doha (RJ) 10:10 Larnaca, Damascus (RJ) 10:30 Beirut (RJ) 10:35 Dhahran, Riyadh (SV) 10:35 Singapore, Abu Dhabi (RJ) 12:15 Bahrain (GF) 12:30 Moscow (SU) 14:40 Kuwait (RJ) 16:15 Baghdad (IA) 17:30 New York, Vienna (RJ) 18:00 Amsterdam, Istanbul (LJ/LM) 18:30 Cairo (RJ) 19:45 Tripoli (RJ) 20:15 Zurich, Larnaca (SR) 20:20 Athens (OA) 20:40 Rome, Damascus (AZ) 20:50 Frankfurt, Damascus (LH) 22:50 Cairo (MS) 06:45 Cairo (RJ) 01:10 Baghdad (RJ) </div> </div> <div> <div>DEPARTURES:</div> <div> 05:45 Cairo (RJ) 07:00 Beirut (RJ) 07:30 Amman (SU) 07:50 Cairo (MS) 11:15 Tripoli (RJ) 11:45 Geneva, Madrid (RJ) 12:00 Paris, London (RJ) 12:15 Amsterdam, New York (RJ) 12:15 Riyadh, Dhahran (SV) 12:15 Istanbul, Bucharest (RJ) 12:20 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ) 12:30 Rome (RJ) 14:30 Bahrain (GF) 14:30 Cairo (RJ) 14:50 Moscow (SU) 15:40 Kuwait (RJ) 17:15 Baghdad (IA) 19:30 Kuwait (RJ) 20:30 Doha, Dubai (RJ) 20:45 Cairo (RJ) 21:10 Baghdad (RJ) 22:00 Bangkok (RJ) 23:20 Cairo (MS) </div> </div> <div> <div>MARITIME TRAFFIC</div> <div> Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boleslaw Krawcowsty Kapitan Mazanec Jeddah Crown Nafko Nafko Kota Nafko Midhat Arabella Al Khamsa Arkis Star Kirkuk Jeddah Crown Kota Timur Khamsa Amin Kassar and Sons Company, Tel. 23224 (six lines) at your service. </div> </div> <div> <div>MONEY EXCHANGE</div> <div> Local sell/buy rates in Jls <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Belgian franc 64.4/ 64.7 Dutch guilder 114.8/ 115.5 Egyptian guinea 310/ 315 French franc 42.3/ 42.5 Iraqi dinar 333.3/ 342.3 Italian lire (for 100) 20.9/ 21.1 Japanese yen (for 100) 162.5/ 163.4 Kuwaiti dinar 1330.3/ 1338.3 Lebanese lira 49.5/ 51.6 Omani rial 1155/ 1163.3 Qatari riyal 110.3/ 111.3 Saudi riyal 113/ 113.7 Swedish crown 45.9/ 45.9 Swiss franc 157.2/ 158.2 Syrian lira 42.2/ 42.9 U.A.E. dirham 109.3/ 110.5 U.K. sterling pound 483.1/ 485 U.S. dollar 403.5/ 405.5 W. German mark 129.4/ 130.1 </div> </div> <div> <div>WEATHER</div> <div> Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology. It will be partly cloudy, with northerly moderate winds. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm. Low/high temperature in deg.C Amman 13/10 Aqaba 11/20 Deserts 5/14 Jordan Valley 13/21 Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 15.4, Aqaba 21, Humidity 24 per cent. Amman 63 per cent, Aqaba 24 per cent. </div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.</div> <div> <div>EMERGENCIES</div> <div> Ambulance 193, 775111 Fire, fire, police 199 Blood bank 775121 Civil Defence rescue 661111 Fire headquarters 27090.3 Police rescue 192, 2111, 3777 Police headquarters 391 Traffic police 56390.1 Electric Power Co. 36381-2 Municipal water service 771125-8 Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 53333 </div> </div> <div> <div>TAXIS:</div> <div> Nell taxi 44433 Grand Palace taxi 667079 Medial City 81813 Faisal taxi 22051 Rashed taxi 32023 Tali taxi 25021 </div> </div> <div> <div>HOSPITALS</div> <div> Hussein Medical Centre 81381-332 Khalidi Maternity, J. Amman 44281-4 Al-Khalidi Maternity, J. Amman 42441 Jabel Amman Maternity 42362 Malhas, J. Amman 36140 Palestine, Shmeisani 664171-4 Shmeisani Hospital 669131 University Hospital 845845 Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein 667158 Al-Muhsin Hospital 667227-9 The Islamic Abadi 665232 Al-Ahli, Abadi 665232 Al-Muhajir 77701-3 Al-Bashir, J. Ashrefieh 775111 Army, Marka 91611 </div> </div> <div> <div>IRBID</div> <div> Dr. Ibrahim Al Rabadi 72796 Sheikh Salameh pharmacy 5173 </div> </div> <div> <div>ZARQA:</div> <div> Dr. Azizan Al Madani 985238 Al Jalab pharmacy (—) </div> </div> <div> <div>GENERAL</div> <div> Jordan Television 773111 Radio Jordana 774111 Ministry of Tourism 42311 Police complaints 666412 Fire complaints 661176 Telephone: Information 12 Jordan and Middle East calls 10 Overseas calls 17 Cable or telegram 11 Repair service 11 </div> </div> </div>
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Home news

Inter-Arab dialogue and understanding needed for Mideast solution — Sharaf

CAIRO (Petra) — Building Arab solidarity and achieving a unified Arab stand through consultations and understanding are much more important than other factors required for achieving a just and durable peace in the Middle East, Minister of Information Laila Sharaf said Monday.

In an interview with the Egyptian magazine, Rose Al Youssef, Mrs. Sharaf said the principle of "land for peace" which was contained in His Majesty King Hussein's address to the opening session of the 17th session of the Palestine National Council (PNC), which concluded in Amman last Thursday, includes the land which Israel occupied after the 1967 war, including Jerusalem, the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights.

"The United States policies in the Middle East area proved that the U.S. wants to act individually and according to its wishes and interests," Mrs. Sharaf said.

Mrs. Sharaf called on the U.S. to study and perceive the other side of the problem which is related to Arab rights and the continuous Israeli aggression and stressed the importance of an American move in this respect to find a just and durable peace in the Middle East.

Commenting Jordanian-Egyptian relations, Mrs. Sharaf said, the resumption of relations with Egypt has led to some dynamics in the Arab arena, which will in turn contribute to saving the Arabs from the deteriorating situation.

8 killed, 5 injured in Ma'an gas cylinder blast

AMMAN (J.T.) — Eight people were killed and five others injured in a gas cylinder explosion that occurred in Ma'an, southern Jordan, Sunday.

The blast followed an earlier incident in which a truck undergoing repairs in a garage suddenly slid off a slope, violently hitting and breaking a wall and injuring Ahmad Ali Aloush. Following the truck accident a number of people gathered around the garage including Sergeant Sulaiman Saleh from the Ma'an police station who came to investigate the accident, and Mamduh Amira an electrician from the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) who

was called to cut off electric supply from the garage.

As they were inside the garage a gas cylinder exploded, killing the sergeant and the JEA technician in addition to five others. According to Dr. Abdullah Al Shawrah, director of the government hospital here, the five people brought in for treatment were suffering from medium or light injuries.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Monday delegated the Ma'an Governor Saleh Al Qudat to convey condolences to the families of the victims of the explosion.

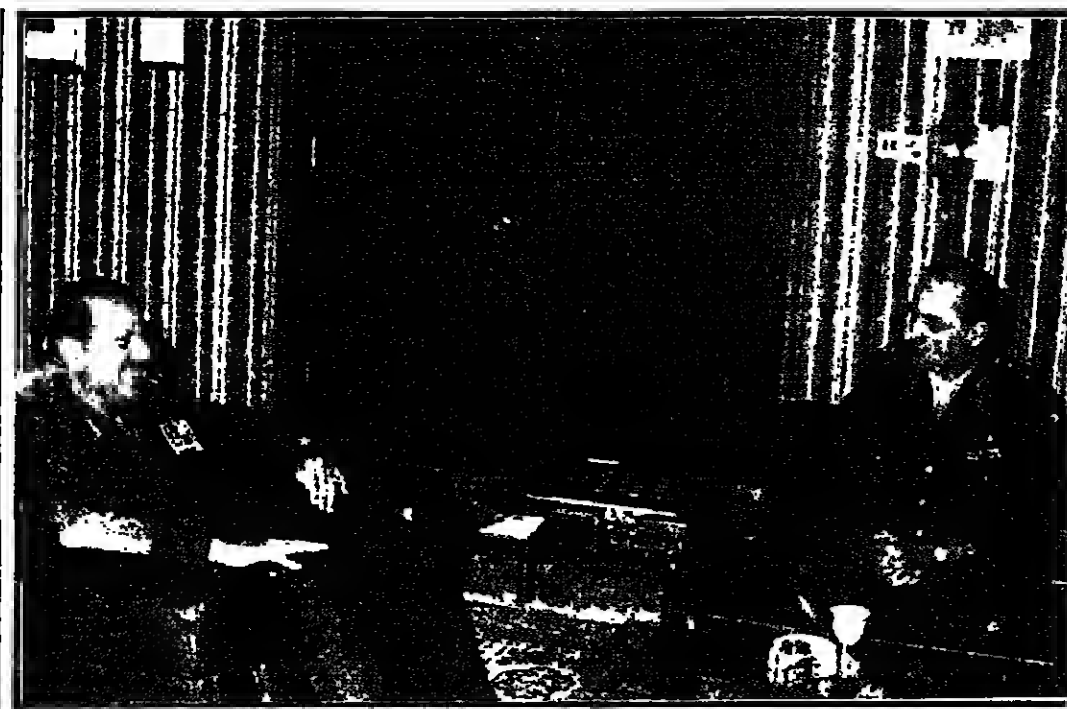
Jubeiha Municipality plans JD 1.5m industry, craft zone

JUBEIHA (J.T.) — Jubeiha Municipality will establish a craft zone at the cost of JD 1.5 million, according to Mr. Ahmad Abdullah Al Lawzi, chairman of the municipality's committee. He said that the project will be set up on an area of 50 dunums north of the town and will include all small industries that lie in the western part of Amman.

The municipality will try to acquire the necessary funds for the project which is expected to create permanent revenue for the municipality.

Mr. Lawzi said. For the sake of implementing this project, the municipality will now get the towns people to pay back debts amounting to JD 400,000, he said.

Mr. Lawzi added that the municipality has taken steps to establish an Islamic cemetery and has drawn up plans for building a preparatory school for boys. This year the municipality's budget amounts to JD 985,000 which will be spent on building roads, purchasing land for building and for promoting sports activities, he added.



Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker receives in his office Monday the commander-in-chief of the Dutch armed forces, Gen. Johannes Ross (Petra photo)

Sharif Zaid briefs Dutch counterpart

AMMAN (Petra) — Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker Monday received the commander-in-chief of the Dutch armed forces, Gen. Johannes Ross, and a military delegation accompanying him.

Gen. Sharif Zaid briefed the Dutch visitors on the development of the Jordanian Armed Forces (JAF).

Earlier on Monday Gen. Ross

visited the Martyr's Monument where he listened to a briefing by the Armed Forces general inspector about the exhibits and pictures on display there which recite the story of the Great Arab Revolution. The Dutch delegation also watched a film on the developments of the Jordanian Armed Forces.

The Dutch delegation later visited the King Hussein Medical

Centre and the Farah Rehabilitation Centre and toured their various sections.

Mr. and Mrs. Ross and the accompanying delegation arrived in Amman on Sunday on an official visit to Jordan.

They were received upon arrival by Gen. Sharif Zaid and his wife in addition to a number of senior aides.

Abdul Jaber, Klibi discuss social work

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Tayseer Abdul Jaber Monday discussed with Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi scopes of joint social work, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, reported from Tunis.

Dr. Abdul Jaber, who is currently in Tunis to take part in a three-day meeting of Arab social affairs ministers due to start Tuesday, Jordan's desire, as expressed by all Arab parties, to study achievements in the social field in the Arab World and the need for an ideal and wider Arab cooperation.

In a statement to Petra, Dr. Abdul Jaber said he discussed with Mr. Klibi priorities of social Arab work and means of expanding

the fields of cooperation among Arab countries. In addition to directing more attention to Arab regional organisations in order to push the wheel of social Arab work forward.

Dr. Abdul Jaber also pointed out that Tunis meeting is scheduled to discuss a subject presented to it by Jordan about agrarian reform and rural development in the Jordan Valley, in addition to discussing the conditions of the inhabitants of South Lebanon and their suffering in view of the Israeli occupation.

Taking part in the meetings will be 13 ministers in addition to representatives of other Arab countries' social development ministries and their ambassadors to Tunisia.

Meeting to study food policies

AMMAN (Petra) — Exchange of information and expertise on policies of food and nutrition in Near East countries will be discussed during a meeting which will be held at the University of Jordan from Dec. 10 to Dec. 13, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

Participants in the meeting, which is organised by the University of Jordan in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), will also discuss problems facing the drawing up, implementation and evaluation of food policies, with a view to overcoming them, and setting priorities in drawing food programmes and implementing them.

Dr. Barhoum, who has just completed a study on divorce in Jordan, said any society is built on an inseparable, triangular basis: women, children and social interaction. "Women teach their children and educate them: children form the society's future nuclei and in turn form the social interaction," Dr. Barhoum said.

Divorce has become a major problem in the Jordanian society and should be given great interest in terms of discussions over the reasons for divorce and the outcome of social problems of this issue, he added.

Seminar probes into reasons for alarming increase in divorces

By Rana Sabbagh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The alarming rate of divorces — "one out of every five" — in Jordan was the focus of a one-day seminar held here Monday which studied in depth various aspects of the situation and estranged relations leading to divorce and religious issues pertaining to marriage and divorce.

The seminar entitled "Divorce in Jordan," organised by the Business and Professional Women's Club (BPWC), heard several experts on the subject of divorce including Dr. Mohammad Barhoum, dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Jordan, and Sheikh Izzeddine Al Khatib, the grand mufti of Jordan.

Dr. Barhoum, who has just completed a study on divorce in Jordan, said any society is built on an inseparable, triangular basis: women, children and social interaction. "Women teach their children and educate them: children form the society's future nuclei and in turn form the social interaction," Dr. Barhoum said.

Divorce has become a major problem in the Jordanian society and should be given great interest in terms of discussions over the reasons for divorce and the outcome of social problems of this issue, he added.

Dr. Barhoum linked the rapid growth in the Jordanian economy and financial status to divorce. "In 1972, one out of seven marriages ended in divorce, compared to 1982 where one out of five marriages ended in divorce," he said.

He also stated that the ratio of divorce increased among the low educated people, where no pre-marriage introduction exists and the continued interference of both families in the affairs of the married couple and their children is obvious.

He said marriage is an institution that should be built on three common factors between any couple: social, psychological and sexual backgrounds. Age factor is another problem on hampering the relation of any couple, he said.

During Monday's seminar, held at the Chamber of Commerce in Amman, Dr. Barhoum elaborated on reasons leading to divorce, which he said his study pointed out. "The interference of the family of couples caused 34 per cent of divorce cases, lack of understanding between the couple caused 23.2 per cent and 34.7 per cent was due to men's disrespect and maltreatment of their wives. About 20 per cent was due to men having relations with other women, Dr. Barhoum said.

These percentages could be related to the economic boom in Jordan during the last decade, Mr. Barhoum explained.

He said "the sad side of divorce" happens to be when the couple had children. "This separation causes children to suffer, both psychologically and emotionally, besides social problems of juvenile delinquency."

Dr. Barhoum concluded that the proper choice of any couple for marriage should be based on a solid ground of total agreement.

"Woman also should learn her rights; she should not fear the husband or his family; she should ask for her right as a married woman, and not to be weak and accept her fate. Women too, have their right to ask for divorce and alimony," he said.

Sheikh Khatib discussed the issue of divorce in the context of Islam, which he said "enacted the legislation of marriage and divorce."

He said both man and woman have equal duties and rights in the institution of marriage.

"Women should be responsible for raising and educating their children, and perform their job as house wife, while men have the duties of working and offering financial support," he told the seminar.

Sheikh Khatib said almost all divorce cases are due to the lack of commitment to religious teachings, and preference to material wealth. He said: "Piety, conviction and belief in religion should be in people's minds."

Abdullah Khazneh Katbeh, a lawyer, discussed the legal aspects of marriage and divorce, and concluded that divorce results from poverty, age gap, family interferences, women working without the approval or consent of the husband, lack of pre-introduction during the period of engagement and in some cases the barrenness of the woman.

He added that "females forget the ethical and moral codes of pre-marriage relations."

After the speeches were delivered, the audience was engaged in a discussion on the issue. Some people were of the opinion of having a medical test before engagement. Members of the BPWC insisted that religious, as well as social activists should cooperate in raising the level of awareness among people in society as far as both the rights and duties of women are concerned.

Egypt, Jordan agree on concept of 'land for peace'

(Continued from page 1)

all Lebanese territory, and their support for all efforts aimed at enabling the legitimate Lebanese authority ensure the sovereignty, independence, and unity of its territories.

The communiqué said King Hussein and President Mubarak "expressed satisfaction" at the results of the PNC session.

"The outcome of the PNC session affirmed Palestinian legitimacy and independent decision-making," the communiqué said.

"The two sides agreed that the Middle East situation cannot be settled except by solving the Palestinian problem, which is the core issue, and achieving the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people including their inalienable right to self-determination in the form they see fit.

"The two sides expressed their deep concern at the continuing Iran-Iraq war, and while renewing their absolute support for Iraq in its just fight, they stress their support for all sincere efforts aimed at achieving a quick, effective solution to this war which is wasting both countries material and human resources, (to the end of) establishing the foundations of peace and stability in the region.

"As the two countries note the danger confronting the Arab area, they emphasise the necessity of coordinating efforts aimed at rebuilding and uniting Arab ranks, to the end of augmenting national (Arab) solidarity in the interests of the Arab Nation, and in service of its just causes.

"...the two sides expressed their complete satisfaction at the brotherly and friendly atmosphere which pervaded their successful discussions, and at their complete agreement of opinions, which gives a strong boost to relations between the two peoples and the two brotherly countries. Owing to the importance and usefulness of these meetings, the two sides have agreed to exchange visits at all levels to the end reinforcing the brotherly relations between the two countries."

The communiqué followed three days of talks between King Hussein, who was visiting Egypt for the first time in eight years, and President Mubarak, who visited Jordan in October following the Kingdom's resumption of diplomatic relations with Cairo after a five-year break.

Jordan was the first of 17 Arab states to resume diplomatic relations with Egypt which were severed after Cairo signed the U.S.-sponsored Camp David agreement with Israel.

The King, in an address to the Egyptian People's Assembly (parliament) Sunday, reiterated Jordan's rejection of the Camp David agreement and said there could be no peace in the Middle East without the return of Jerusalem to Arab sovereignty.

The King, who was accompanied by a high-powered delegation including Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, Information Minister Laila Sharaf and Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Fathi Abu Taleb, held several rounds of talks with President Mubarak in Cairo as well as in Ismailia.

In Cairo, which greeted the King and Queen and the accompanying delegation with one of the most grand welcome ceremonies the Egyptian capital ever accorded to visiting dignitaries, the King also laid a wreath at the Monument for the Unknown Soldier.

In Ismailia, King Hussein and Queen Noor visited the Martyr Ahmad Hamdi Tunnel across the Suez Canal. Suez Governor Bakir Mohammad Bakir presented the King with the Key of Suez City and Egypt's Third Army Corps commander presented the Jordanian leader with the shield of the army corps.

On Sunday, President Mubarak hosted a dinner in honour of the King and Queen and accompanied the King on a visit to Salhiyeh and the Tenth of Ramadan City.

Prior to his departure from Cairo Monday evening, the King told reporters at Al Qubbeh Palace that the convening of the PNC in Amman was a "victory for the independence of the Palestinian decision-making process."

In answer to a question on his talks with President Mubarak, the King said the discussions covered bilateral relations, the situation in the Middle East and that he and President Mubarak agreed to pursue dialogue at the political level as well as other arenas in order to achieve coordination and integration between the two countries.

Prime Minister Kamal Hassan Ali, Speaker of the People's Assembly Rifa' Mahjoub, Speaker of the Shura Council Subhi Abdul Hakim, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence Field Marshal Mohammad Abdul Halim Abu Ghazalah, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Higher Education Mustafa Kamal Hilmi, cabinet ministers and senior government officials in addition to Jordan's Ambassador to Egypt Hussein Hamam.

Upon departing Egypt King Hussein sent a cable thanking President Mubarak for the courtesy and hospitality extended to him during his visit.

"While I am leaving the Arab Republic of Egypt, I am pleased to send to you and to the people and government of Egypt my thanks and gratitude for the true brotherly feelings, welcome and hospitality you accorded me and Queen Noor and the Jordanian delegation, which made us feel that we are in our country and among our brothers and family," the cable said.

King Hussein and Queen Noor were received upon arrival at Amman airport by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Her Highness Princess Sarvath, His Highness Prince Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein, the speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, Ahmad Al Lawzi and Akef Al Fayed respectively, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, cabinet members, the secretary general of the Royal Court and senior military and civil officials.

Results of lottery organised by Friends of Liver Patients Bazaar

Dec. 1-2, 1984
at Amra Hotel, Amman
LOTTERY PRIZES

First prize: A First Class air ticket, Amman-Rome-Amman, presented by Alla, the Royal Jordanian Airline.
Winning number: 2793
Second prize: A Tourist Class air ticket, Amman-Bombay-Amman, presented by Kuwait Airways.
Winning number: 1984
Third prize: An air ticket, Amman-Lamaca-Amman, and one week stay at a first grade hotel in Cyprus, presented by Al Ahlia for Travel and Tourism.
Winning number: 1367
Fourth prize: A dress, presented by Topaz Boutique proprietor Maha Tael Kheir.
Winning number: 1491
Fifth prize: A golden brace for a child, presented by a donor who requested anonymity.
Winning number: 1047
Sixth prize: Tea set, presented by Rosental Stores proprietor Samir Owels.
Winning number: 2539

ENTRY CARDS PRIZES

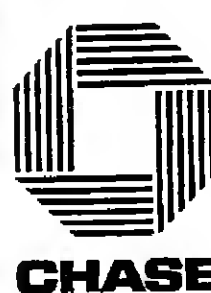
First prize: A golden brace, presented by a donor who requested anonymity.
Winning number: 866
Second prize: Coral necklace, golden plated, presented by Kosbar Stores.
Winning number: 540
Third prize: A ladies watch, presented by Farah Tamarl.
Winning number: 191.

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Jordan Times

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Where are the peace-seekers?

RARELY IN recent years have Arab voices spoken more clearly about the prospects of a negotiated peace with Israel. Two of the key Arab parties — the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Jordan — have both stated they are keen to work together to formulate a pan-Arab strategy to negotiate peace and assure the establishment of a Palestinian state. The Palestine National Council (PNC) resolutions were an unambiguous reaffirmation of the PLO's shift towards diplomatic solutions to the conflict with Israel. The Jordanian position was most recently outlined in the speech of His Majesty King Hussein in front of the Egyptian parliament two days ago. In both cases, Jordan and the PLO are talking about a peace negotiation with Israel that would activate the principle of exchanging territory for peace. While the PLO rightly objects to an open acceptance of United Nations Resolution 242 because of the lack of clarity on Palestinian national rights, the PLO has gone much further than 242 by accepting the Fez resolutions that call for the security of all states in the region, if a Palestinian state is established.

The Arabs are rather clear on the outlines of a negotiated peace with Israel, as well as on the mechanism that may be used to achieve it, namely an international conference under United Nations auspices. Our question is: Why are there not very many voices from Israel saying the same thing? Where are all those Israelis who keep telling the world how much they value peace and security and a normal life? Where are the Israelis who would echo the Arab calls for negotiations, peaceful co-existence and genuine peace and security?

Where are the Israelis (and their American cheerleader-financiers) who are so quick to call for bold Arab leaders who dare talk about peace in public? We would have expected a more bold and substantial response from peace-minded Israelis than what we've seen in the past few weeks. Or are the Israelis unable to see an offer of peace and security when it is put under their noses?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: A threat to all Arabs

IN A speech to Egypt's parliament, King Hussein reiterated what he had proposed to the Palestine National Council in Amman. He said that Jordan seeks to regain land in exchange for peace. Jordan seeks to liberate all occupied Arab territories including Jerusalem through negotiations in which the PLO should take part.

This is Jordan's policy vis a vis the Middle East question, a policy that is not open to compromise. In the speech in Cairo, King Hussein said that these ideas serve as a framework for a formula with which the Jordanians and Palestinians can work together to achieve liberation and free the Arab inhabitants from Israeli rule. He said that if the PLO accepts this formula both sides can start gathering support from Arab countries before delving into the international arena.

The prevailing weak Arab situation continues to encourage the Israelis to perpetuate their occupation of Arab lands and therefore there should be a beginning for saving the nation. This beginning should be carried through sensible dialogue and logic to take the place of recriminations and threats. All Arabs should realise the danger of Zionism which does not threaten Palestine and the confrontation states alone but rather the whole Arab World.

Al Dustour: Leaders call for new start

THE LEADERS of Egypt and Jordan spoke to the Egyptian parliament Sunday calling for an end to Arab differences and a start of serious efforts for mobilising the nation to confront its enemies. President Mubarak criticised the policy of forming axes in the Arab region and called on the Arabs to transcend their differences and join forces to abort enemy plans. This was a message to Arab leaders which implied that Egypt's policies have started a complete and drastic change under Mubarak.

The president has displayed his country's tendency for joining the Arab Nation's efforts to solve their problems. He also declared total support for the Palestinians and their struggle to achieve liberation and regain their homeland. The parliament listened to the King's speech in which he also called for a dialogue among the leaders of this nation and explained the dangers that await the Arabs if they allowed the present state of affairs to last longer. The King made it clear that Jordan cannot allow the Palestine problem to be frozen because the Israelis will continue their aggressive plans, and because freezing the problem means creating more and more dangers for Jordan, and eventually, the whole Arab Nation.

Jordan, as the King pointed out, cannot allow the present state of no-war no-peace to continue because it will be an opportunity for Israel to perpetuate its occupation of Arab land.

Sawt Al Shaab: Moulded into one body

KING HUSSEIN'S speech to Egypt's parliament was, like that he delivered to the Palestine National Council, characterised by frankness and clarity. He tackled various aspects of the Palestine issue and pointed out the dangers inherent in the present state of affairs now prevailing in the Arab region.

The King warned that Jordan cannot allow the Palestine problem to be frozen because this will have serious consequences on Jordan and the Palestinians. Allowing the problem to be frozen and neglected means allowing Israel to consolidate its hold over Palestine and giving it the chance to evict the Arab inhabitants from their homeland.

In his speech, the King offered basic principles for a settlement. He said that Jordan seeks peace in exchange for land and it wants the Palestinians to be part in any negotiations over their future. He stressed that U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 serves as a basis for peace but this resolution can be implemented only through a U.N.-sponsored international conference in which all major powers should participate.

King Hussein said that the Jordanians and Palestinians have been fused into one body through demographic, geographic and historic elements and he hoped they together will form a nucleus for gathering around them the Arab states and take the initiative for solving the Middle East question.

What's for lunch, Fez?

By Rami G. Khouri

THE 17th session of the Palestine National Council (PNC) may go down in history as a giant step sideways. Given the virtual political paralysis of the PLO during the past 30 months, since the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in June 1982, a sideways step is nevertheless an achievement.

It seems to be that the PLO did a considerable amount of reaffirming of past positions at the PNC, which is useful but not overwhelmingly impressive. It reaffirmed its adherence to the Fez peace plan, a special relationship with Jordan, acceptance of the international peace conference proposal, and acceptance of all United Nations resolutions that call for Palestinian self-determination and statehood.

It reaffirmed its rejection of United Nations Security Council Resolution 242, the Reagan initiative, the Camp David autonomy proposals and all other resolutions and plans that do not explicitly call for the right of Palestinian statehood.

It made some fuzzy, grouping-in-the-dark noises about relations with Egypt (anybody who can adequately explain to me the precise meaning of the statement on Egypt in the final communiqué shall be proposed by me for honorary lifetime membership in

the French Academy), and reaffirmed that it valued its independence above all else.

How, on balance, does the PLO emerge from the PNC meeting? One should first ask: Why was the PNC meeting held in the first place? It was held, I suppose, to reaffirm that the Palestinians have an independent leadership, headed by the moderate folk represented by Mr. Yasser Arafat. The PLO mainstream was militarily attacked and beaten in north Lebanon last year by Syrian-backed Palestinian rebels opposed to the Arafat policy. The PNC meeting was Mr. Arafat's political response to the military beating he had taken in north Lebanon. It is an axiom of Arab politics that the Palestinians are militarily weaker than any Arab country, but are politically stronger than any Arab country. Mr. Arafat proved this point again at the PNC, by challenging the Syrians head-on and beating them politically in the short run.

Three interesting trends emerged at the PNC. The first was the general attention paid to the decorum of parliamentary life. This is a political leadership (a revolution, if you will) that values its institutional integrity very much. The manner in which the PNC dealt with the emotionally charged

issue of the anti-Arafat rebels in Fatah and some of the other Palestinian groups (such as Ahmad Jibril's) was, to my mind, spectacularly fair and cool-headed.

The second was the obvious desire of the vast majority of delegates to continue the dialogue with Syria and the Damascus-based Palestinian groups of the "Democratic Alliance", aiming at national reconciliation. There was considerable speculation before the PNC that the PLO would formally split into an Arafat-led majority and a minority of independent or Syrian-backed groups that favour armed struggle over a possible negotiated peace with Israel. The formal split never materialised, as the PNC in Amman and several of the factions in Damascus all stated their desire to continue talking, with the aim of consummating the agreement reached at Aden and Algiers earlier this year.

The third interesting point was the clear penchant for a negotiated peace. While it generally reaffirmed past PNC resolutions, this session was perhaps slightly more clear on the PLO's conditional acceptance of the principle of the partition of Palestine. Much of the media was off chasing the wrong horse when it focused on the PLO's rejection of Res-

olution 242. When King Hussein mentioned 242 in his opening speech, he was referring to the principles enshrined in it, the two most important of which are the non-admissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and the exchange of land for peace. The PLO has no great problem with these principles. In practice, the PLO has gone very much further than 242 in accepting the Fez resolutions and calling for an international peace conference under United Nations auspices.

This PNC was, emphatically, a Palestinian cry for peace, the strongest signal we have ever given of our desire to coexist with Israel in two politically equal states in the land of Palestine. In itself, however, this is neither a new nor a significant gesture. The PLO has been saying these things for a decade, only to hear the echo of American disinterest and Israeli disdain. The world has told us frankly that it is insufficient to state our true terms and then sit back, waiting for the world to deliver. What do we plan to do to secure our state, beyond repeatedly demanding it?

The PLO has not yet addressed the overwhelming challenge that faces it: How to show that a policy of moderation can bring results. To have opted conditionally for a

negotiated solution and the partition of Palestine is to have made a profound moral choice, one that required a great deal of courage, humility and self-confidence. But a successful political leadership is called on to do more than this. It is called on to translate the moral force of one's convictions and concessions into political processes and practical gains.

There are few practical gains the Palestinians and the PLO can point to in recent years. To be an observer at the United Nations, to be recognised as the sole legitimate leadership of the Palestinian people, to have offices in over 100 countries, to have the support of many associations of countries, even to have lunch with Claude Cheysson... yes, yes and yes again, all of these things are "political" gains. But there are few practical gains that have followed our political successes. We are still dispersed, disenfranchised and denied.

Mr. Arafat and the majority opinion he represents must show that moderation makes sense. There was an opportunity to strike politically when the PLO left Beirut in 1982, but we missed that opportunity. There may be another opportunity now, with the PLO reasserting its independence and its political programme.

Will we use it, or miss it again?

The vast majority of Palestinians has spoken clearly, through the PLO, that it wants to explore the possibilities of a negotiated settlement. What does it mean to accept the Fez resolutions and an international peace conference? It means a diplomatic solution, negotiations with Israel, and, one hopes, a Palestinian state. The PLO has to come to terms with the full implications of its stated positions. Otherwise, the more we keep talking about peace and negotiations and international conferences, the more we will simply be ignored by an international community that gives us its patience and its lunches, but little else.

That is why I say the PLO has taken a giant step sideways. It is back to the situation that prevailed about 18 months ago, preaching both armed struggle and a negotiated peace. If we are serious about a negotiated peace, we have to travel down that path emphatically. If moderation proves to be an illusory and naive policy, then we should abandon it and recalculate the political equation. To remain suspended between the two options is to choose the worst path of indecision and inaction, and to abdicate the trust and responsibilities of leadership.

Unmatched inflation eats into Israel's 'welfare state'

By Alan Elsner
 Reuters

TELE AVIV — So far this month, Israel's electricity company temporarily cut off power to the water company, municipal workers were not paid on time, universities opened late and an airline went bankrupt.

Israeli inflation, now equal to an annual 800 per cent, is seriously affecting the lives of ordinary people.

"It has brought us to our knees," said Haifa Mayor Arye Gurel whose city is \$6 million in debt.

"Every month, I spend a third of the city's income from taxes on repaying bank loans at 1,500 per cent annual interest. Then, I have to run back to the banks for new loans to pay my workers their salaries," he told Reuters in an interview.

The government last month embarked on the latest in a long series of economic rescue plans by getting trade unions and employers to agree to a three-month partial wages and price freeze aimed at reducing inflation to 200 per cent a year.

Economists say the freeze will have no more than a temporary effect unless the government backs it up by massively cutting its own budget, something it has failed to do up to now.

Meanwhile, big firms and small businesses, research institutions, theatres and sports clubs struggle to survive.

"Only the strong and efficient will get through the economic winter ahead of us unscathed. The rest will go under," minister without portfolio Yigael Hurvitz, a former finance minister, told Reuters.

One victim was the privately owned MAOF airline. The company began as a charter service to a few European cities six years ago but built up a fleet of four Boeing 707s operating regular flights to many destinations.

This year, with most Israelis no longer able to afford the foreign holidays of two or three years ago, MAOF ran into trouble and three weeks ago went bankrupt, owing creditors \$10 million.

The government, which refused to keep MAOF alive, did decide to help the Beersheba-based Ben Gurion University of the Negev.

With an 18-million-dollar debt, crippling interest payments and falling income from tuition fees, the university failed to open its doors to students as scheduled this month.

It took two weeks of negotiations before the government agreed to send emergency funds. The university was reluctantly persuaded to eliminate courses and research programmes and fire 400 workers.

A similar thing happened when Arye Gurel decided last month not to take any more bank loans and refused to pay Haifa's 6,000 municipal employees their wages.

The workers immediately called a strike. After 10 days, with rubbish piling up in the streets, schools and kindergartens closed, hospitals operating only emergency services and the strike spreading to other cities, Mr. Gurel came to an agreement with the government under which he took a new bank loan while the government advanced emergency funds.

Mr. Gurel blames the gov-

ernment for Haifa's financial crisis. He said it invariably delayed paying the city's education, health and welfare budgets on time.

"Since the money is not linked to inflation, that means a massive erosion in the value of the money we receive. Eventually, and the day is not far off, the banks will close our credit line and that will be the moment of truth," he said.

Mr. Gurel said he was trying to cut costs. Last month, 240 municipal workers lost their jobs. Question marks now hover over the Municipal Theatre Company and sports stadium.

The system of delaying payment as long as possible has been adopted all over the Israeli economy. This month, the state electricity company, complaining of massive unpaid bills, cut off power to four state water company pumping sta-

tions. The water company said it had the same problem: its customers were refusing to pay water bills on time.

Ironically, many economists blame the government for part of the problem by allowing commercial banks to impose interest rates 50 loans far above inflation.

"In the first eight months of this year, interest rates on overdrafts were 87 per cent above inflation," said Geoffrey Fisher, a senior economic researcher at the Bank of Israel.

"The idea was to restrain inflation by reducing the amount of money circulating," he said.

As a result, the government is being forced to support with emergency funds the growing list of bankrupt institutions, constituting the backbone of Israel's welfare state.

Arab News



Fearful calm lies over Punjab

The northern Indian state of Punjab, scarred by violence for nearly three years over militant Sikh demands for a separate state, remains troubled weeks after the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi by two Sikhs. K.K. Sharma, recently in Punjab, reports.

More than four weeks after the assassination of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi by two of her Sikh security guards, fear remains rife in the Punjab. "We are on the brink of civil war," declares Khushna Kant, a Hindu and Janata Party leader who once represented the state's capital. Yet life in the strife-torn homeland of India's Sikhs now seems to go on normally—at least on the surface.

Closed for nearly a fortnight, after Mrs. Gandhi was assassinated and widespread violence against the Sikhs erupted in Delhi and north Indian states, schools in the Punjab have reopened. Shops do a brisk trade, there are the usual queues outside cinema halls and the roads are humming with traffic.

Everybody agrees that the peace in Punjab is due to quick and timely preventive action by the authorities. Heavily-armed security forces kept around-the-clock vigil in the first few days, a tight curfew was clamped on all towns and thousands of potential trouble makers were rounded up and detained. The show of force

remains the main deterrent. The only outward sign of abnormality is the sudden appearance of khaki-uniformed, fully armed, steel-helmeted para-military forces in trucks mounted with machine guns. These are driven slowly along crowded streets in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar, the bustling town of Jullundur and even in the capital of Punjab, Chandigarh.

This does not really surprise the Sikhs and Hindus of Punjab to whom acts of terrorism and armed reprisals have been commonplace for nearly three years, as so increasingly militant Sikh minority battled with the Indian security forces for pursuit of an independent homeland. Indeed, the show of force, the heavy patrolling and the pickets at key road crossings are welcome signs of a government that is actually functioning.

That authority is being asserted effectively is borne out by the fact that it was Punjab alone, where 52 per cent of the 30 million population is made up of Sikhs, that remained free of sectarian strife following Mrs. Gandhi's ass-

assination in which an estimated 2,000 Sikhs were slaughtered by Hindus across north India.

However there is hardly anyone in Punjab who is not deeply afraid that the violence may again break the uneasy lull.

A senior Sikh official who is manning the crisis management team that is keeping a 24 hour vigil on the situation in Punjab and maintaining close links with security forces throughout the state shakes his head ominously: "Sikhs are coming in from as far as Bokaro (in Bihar where the carnage was particularly severe) and the worst affected parts of Delhi. They bring with them tales of horror and atrocities committed by Hindus."

As the victims of the violence flow steadily into Amritsar, the Sikh holy city, and other Punjab towns, resentment among many Sikhs appears to be growing. "Who knows how it will express itself. All we can do is to keep a vigil and pray that better senses prevail," says the official.

It is now widely accepted that it was Mrs. Gandhi's controversial decision—deeply resented in the Punjab—to send troops into the Golden Temple in Amritsar (the Sikhs' holiest shrine) that led to her assassination.

Many Sikhs actually celebrated the assassination of Mrs. Gandhi by dancing in the streets and distributing sweets and this was potentially inflammatory. But they did not express their anger on Hindu Punjabis when Sikhs were butchered and their homes pillaged in Delhi. This welcome development still puzzles officials and the people alike.

As the days pass, Punjab seemingly becomes more secure. Increasingly, Sikhs and Hindus are beginning to recall that their religions are close to each other and just three years ago the two communities lived like brothers, spoke the same Punjabi language and shared the same customs. The more optimistic pray that the communal bloodletting may now be over.

Sooner or later, the authorities will have to relax the harsh measures now in force in Punjab. A beginning has already been made. Even tough officials are aware that they lack the forces to control the situation should widespread violence break out. They do not rule this out and shudder at the prospect. But with each day of peace, hopes strengthen that violence will not recur and that Punjab will set a much-needed example in communal harmony — Financial Times news feature.

New Republican leader has his eye on the White House

By Robert Green
 Reuters

WASHINGTON — Senate Republicans have selected as their new leader a pragmatic conservative who sometimes differs with President Reagan and has his eye on the White House in 1988.

Robert Dole of Kansas, elected Wednesday over four opponents, has promised to work closely with Mr. Reagan but says some differences are likely. As majority leader, he will be responsible for getting the president's programmes passed by the Senate.

"I get along very well with the president," Sen. Dole told reporters. "We'll have some disagreements but I don't see any problems... we want to work with him. The president wants to work with us."

White House spokesman Larry Speakes said Mr. Reagan sent warm congratulations to Sen. Dole. Mr. Speakes said he was sure Mr. Reagan and Sen. Dole could work together.

The 61-year-old senator's main disagreements with the administration have come over his belief that more federal revenues are needed to cut budget deficits. But he said Wednesday he thought a tax increase to reduce the deficit should only be used as a last resort.

He said he would wait until after the 1986 Senate elections before deciding if he would be a presidential candidate in 1988 when Mr. Reagan cannot run again.

Sen. Dole first came to national attention in 1976 when he was the vice-presidential nominee with President Gerald Ford. They lost to Democrats Jimmy Carter and Walter Mondale.

He was a presidential contender in 1980, but dropped out of the race after a poor showing in the new Hampshire Primary election.

When the Republicans gained control of the Senate in 1980 Sen. Dole became chairman of the Finance Committee, which has jurisdiction over tax and trade laws.

Although he supported the Vietnam War and backs Mr. Reagan's policy in Central America, his long career has mostly focused on domestic rather than foreign issues.

As a representative of a major



Sen. Robert Dole

farming state, Kansas, he has frequently taken the lead in dealing with other countries on trade matters.

Last year he warned Japan that quotas on imports of U.S. foodstuffs could lead to retaliatory measures, especially on car imports to America.

On the politically-important issue of grain, he has urged the Chinese to fulfil their contracts to purchase U.S. grain.

While denouncing the Soviet Union over the years for various acts, Sen. Dole always insisted that Washington should not cut off grain sales to Moscow as a foreign policy weapon.

Sen. Dole was badly wounded while serving as a U.S. army officer in Italy during World War II and has only partial use of his right arm.

Born in Russell, Kansas, he served eight years in the House of Representatives before being elected to the Senate in 1968.

His wife Elizabeth is a member of Mr. Reagan's cabinet as secretary of transportation. She celebrated her husband's victory by giving him a Schauzeger dog named "Leader".

Sen. Dole defeated Ted Stevens of Alaska, Richard Lugar of Indiana, Pete Domenici of New Mexico and James McClure of Idaho in the election to succeed Howard Baker of Tennessee, who is retiring.

The Republicans will have a 53 to 47 majority in the Senate. Democrats will vote next month but are almost certain to re-elect Robert Byrd of West Virginia as minority leader.

Computer toys are turned to crime

There has been an alarming growth in the U.S. in the use of computers to break the law, and the problem is only expected to get worse, reports Terry Dodsworth.

NEW YORK — In one well-publicised case last year, Americans were made aware that computer crime is not something which exists only inside the covers of a James Bond thriller.

The issue involved the so-called Milwaukee 414 gang of teenage "hackers" — youngsters with a flair for hacking out answers to computer problems. In the course of their experimentation, they managed to infiltrate the computer of the Los Alamos nuclear weapons research laboratory, to say nothing of the Sloan-Kettering Cancer Clinic, where they inadvertently altered files controlling radiation treatment.

Neither incident proved ultimately to be damaging or fatal. But, according to the American Bar Association, they show only a small part of a problem which is proliferating every day.

The Milwaukee gang used a personal computer to play what it regarded as a "game". There are now more than nine million personal computers in use in the U.S., and they are proving an increasing incitement to crime.

"The annual losses sustained by American business and government organisations as a result of computer crime are, by any measure, huge. If the annual losses attributable to computer crime sustained by the relatively small survey group are, conservatively estimated, in the range of half a billion dollars, then it takes little imagination to realise the magnitude of the annual losses sustained on a nationwide basis."

In this, the survey is echoing the dire warnings of some of its respondents. "Government and business are not willing or are incapable of addressing computer crime/prevention issues. In short, computer crime pays darn well," says one.

The largest security exposure in the coming year will be the use of personal computers with the data residing on movable floppy discs," says another. "Manufacturers must address this problem so that the systems have a uniqueness for each company."

Whether a specific new law is the right answer to the issue is now a matter of public debate — proposals for a legislative change have already been brought up in the U.S. Congress, and will undoubtedly return.

For industry, however, the most immediate question is how to police a problem which can only grow. In the last three or four years, U.S. offices have crossed the rubicon in computerisation, as middle management has begun to grasp the possibilities of the desktop computer.

Of the nine million personal computers in use, well over three million are in place in offices and they are now beginning to move onto the shop floor as well. This revolution is rapidly bringing computing power and knowledge out of the esoteric world of the secure computer room — there are reckoned to be around 70,000 mainframe computer centres in U.S. government and corporate offices — making the possibilities of crime that much more widespread as well.

"It would seem beyond dispute," says the report, "that computer crime is today a large and significant problem with enormous potential for becoming even larger and more significant."

Indeed, the report suggests that one of the problems with computers is that people regard them virtually as toys. In the most striking example of this, one member of the Milwaukee 414 gang told the FBI man who finally tapped him on the shoulder, that he had not realised he was doing anything wrong.

Apart from these ambiguous areas, however, there are plenty of others where crimes are clearly being committed, and where it is equally clearly pays. As far as the machinery and software was concerned, respondents felt that the worst crimes were destruction or alteration of data and software, followed by the theft of software or data.

Even more significantly, computers have also become great perpetrators of crime. They can be made to tell lies, to cheat and to rob with a subtlety and skill which has the ABA report waxing lyrical with horror.

"At the very least, the results of this survey support the proposition that the annual losses sustained by American business and government organisations as a result of computer crime are, by any measure, huge. If the annual losses attributable to computer crime sustained by the relatively small survey group are, conservatively estimated, in the range of half a billion dollars, then it takes little imagination to realise the magnitude of the annual losses sustained on a nationwide basis."

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"It would seem beyond dispute," says the report, "that computer crime is today a large and significant problem with enormous potential for becoming even larger and more significant."

— Financial Times news feature.

Jordanian-Palestinian confederation imperative by all standards, says Khaled Al Hassan

By Olga Mikhael
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Fateh Central Committee member, Khaled Al Hassan expressed support for the proposed Jordanian-Palestinian confederation and described it as "a must" in the face of the dictatorship of geopolitics and demography.

Mr. Al Hassan, who is also a Palestine National Council (PNC) member said in an interview with the Jordan Times that should the Palestinians have an independent state in the West Bank and Gaza, they must have communication links with the outside world. "The geography of the area, in such a case, obliges us to cooperate with either Jordan or Israel."

The Palestinian choice of confederation with Jordan that was decided upon by the 17th Palestine National Council as incorporated in the political report that was announced Thursday "is to keep the existing Palestinian independent political identity, and this confederation has to be practised through the right to self-determination," Mr. Al Hassan said.

The importance of the 17th PNC decision emanates from the aspiration to preserve the Palestinians' right to self-determination, independence, the legitimacy of the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people and the PNC (parliament in exile) as the supreme institution representing the Palestinians.

"To hold the PNC at an affixed date and place with a quorum, to

come out with successful resolutions, and to elect a new Executive Committee were our objectives in the 17th session of the PNC. For some people this might be nonsense, but the battle of representation at a time when there is a political vacuum in the area was a necessary procedure for our legal and official representation in the international arena," Mr. Al Hassan explained.

Resolutions adopted at the end of the 17th PNC meetings were pointed out by Mr. Al Hassan in three circles: the rebuilding of the PLO institutions and establishments for more efficient functioning; overcoming all inter-Arab differences surrounding the PLO with the aim of concentrating on the struggle against Israel; and to strive for a better political manoeuvring on both the Arab and international scene.

"Within these three circles there is the cooperation with Jordan, normalisation of relations with Syria and restoring Arab solidarity," Mr. Al Hassan explained.

The Fateh Central Committee member clarified that rebuilding does not involve only institutions and establishments, but rather includes rebuilding of a new approach by recruiting higher standards of cadres to deal with the main responsibilities.

"I think we have to be realistic for changing things to our benefit; all what is happening in Amman is a starting point ending a chapter of our struggle and initiating a new stage with due consideration to our past experience."

From Descartes' saying, "I

think therefore I exist," the PLO derived its main philosophy: "I struggle, I exist," according to Mr. Al Hassan. "The U.S. is denying our existence. U.N. Resolution 242 is completely rejected by us due to the fact that it deals with our issue as a 'refugee' problem and not as a people who are struggling for their rights to a national homeland and self-determination," he said.

"We stand on a different platform than that of Jordan, Syria and Egypt, as far as U.N. Resolution 242 is concerned. The three Arab states agreed on this resolution because their objectives at that time was to regain the lands that they lost in the 1967 war. For them that was a starting point and it is logical, but our starting point is self-determination and that is why we are fighting all these years," he added.

Mr. Al Hassan blamed the press for what he called misinterpretation of His Majesty King Hussein's speech to the PNC saying that "the speech does not propose a political initiative, rather, it was a proposed framework for cooperation between Jordan and the PLO. The King explained his point of view as a head of state and we have to explain our point of view as a people and a cause."

Mr. Al Hassan, in his way of putting things bluntly, said that the U.S. is an enemy of the Palestinian people: "There is no conspiracy against us from the United States, but an announced war based on conflicting interests."

So Arab solidarity is of major importance to us, because it enables us to use Arab pressure cards

against U.S. policy in the Middle East and change it to our benefit," Mr. Al Hassan added.

"We are not the only ones to blame for a bad PLO position in the world arena. It is also the 'rotten climate' that is dominating the Arab World: inter-Arab disputes and disagreement. This climate has played a major role in reflecting a bad Arab and Palestinian image in the international scene; so the world is not taking us seriously," Mr. Al Hassan said.

The power of international diplomacy and struggle does not emanate from the importance of being on the right or wrong side, or whether you are fighting for a just cause or not, it emanates from physical power. That is why U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said once, "if I differ with the Arabs nothing happens, but if I differ with the Israelis, they make life hell to me. So why differ with the Israelis?" We have to change this formula: otherwise, "American policy is not going to change."

Mr. Al Hassan referred to the Murphy plan as a recent example of American hostility towards the Arab World. "Although the Murphy Plan is related only to Lebanon, I consider it as a suspicious move towards backing-up the announced Israeli strategy of dividing the countries surrounding Israel into small religious or sectarian cantons; thus the main power in the area will be centralised in Tel Aviv."

During his visit to Syria, which coincided with the PNC meetings, French President Francois Mitterrand tried to play the role of the mediator between the PLO and

Syria. "It is a shame that as Arabs we need France or some other foreign country to mediate between us. But I have to admit that in his speech before leaving Damascus, President Mitterrand stated that France recognises Palestinian legitimacy elected by the Palestinian people, and that was a clear indication that France is still in support of the PLO," clarified Mr. Al Hassan.

As for the Syrian hostility that was obvious during Mr. Mitterrand's visit, Mr. Al Hassan said "President Assad did not even refer to the PLO in his speeches and talks, but that is because we are on bad terms, but if our friends succeed in bringing back our relations to normal, then President Assad would be saying something else."

"Syria is a brotherly state, and we are having some political difficulties, but we always adhere in such situations to our defined aims and means and do not move from a spirit and background of revenge," Mr. Al Hassan added.

Asked about the European initiative mentioned by Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu during his visit to the area, Mr. Al Hassan explained that the "Papandreu suggestion was to develop the 1981 Venice Declaration which talked about association with Jordan, and referred to Palestinian self-determination in a vague way."

As far as the first part is concerned, we have interpreted the whole world the way we understand association between each other. This was obvious in the

King's speech at the PNC as well as in the PNC political report. But as we do not accept any initiative which does not refer to our self-determination, I think the Europeans have to work harder next month in Dublin."

During the meeting of the PNC in Amman Dr. Uri Davis, who likes to present himself as a Palestinian Jew, presented to the members a personal proposal that talked about a Palestinian secular state of eight million people, out of which are 3.5 million Jews and 4.5 million Arabs.

"Uri Davis, belongs to a group that believes in one Palestinian state, and considers Jews, Christians and Muslims who live now in Israel, and Palestinians living outside Palestine as Palestinians. He only presented a paper to the council, but he was not given the floor, as was said; he did not attend any of the Political Committee meetings, and his paper was not even discussed," Mr. Al Hassan explained.

As for the issue of the Arab Israeli Knesset member who intended to come to Amman and address the PNC meetings, Mr. Al Hassan explained: "It is mere propaganda, and nothing else; he claimed he represented the Labour Party, but why did not his party contact the PNC officially if they wanted to allow him to attend the PNC meetings as an observer. And there is the fact that the PLO cannot and will not support any Zionist movement, whether it is the Likud or the Labour Party. To us they are all the devil itself."

Rural opposition increases as Manila's poor get poorer

While opposition grows in the rural areas of the Philippines to the government of President Ferdinand Marcos, the plight of Manila's urban poor deepens. Disease and malnutrition are rife, and in some areas 70 per cent of families live below the poverty line.

By Diana Smith

MANILA — While the beleaguered government of President Ferdinand Marcos tries to woo the disaffected rural poor of the Philippines with promises of jobs and loans, the plight of the capital's urban poor is worsening. Manila's squatters face a future of growing poverty, ill-health and malnutrition.

The official population of the Manila metropolitan area (which includes Quezon City, Caloocan City and Pasig City) is 3.5 million, but the real figure is probably 5.5-7 million. Over a million migrants have arrived in Manila in the past decade alone, mainly from the depressed Visayas Islands south of the main island of Luzon. The city is thought to have at least two million squatters.

Few of the capital's 415 squatter settlements have access to clean water or adequate sanitation. "The traditional approach to Manila's medical service is no longer adequate to deal with the problems," warns Dr. Evangelina Suva, head of the Manila Health Department.

A recent survey conducted by the department revealed that one in four residents of the squatter settlement of Pandacan suffered serious illness. Diarrhoea and pneumonia are common; bronchitis and tuberculosis are on the increase, and half the children are

malnourished.

Malnutrition is worse in Manila's urban slums than in the nation's impoverished rural areas, according to Dr. Mita Pardo de Tavera, who works in a non-governmental community health group. She estimates that four out of every five children in Manila are malnourished.

First Lady Imelda Marcos, who is also governor of Metro Manila, has been active in slum clearance projects in the city, but her critics charge that she clears slums only to build grandiose cultural projects. The displaced are provided with no alternative accommodation.

In the Tondo Foreshore area, a squatter settlement bordering on a rubbish tip where there are as many as 12 people to a shack, infection spreads rapidly. The proximity of the garbage and its flies, cockroaches and rats further increases the risk of disease.

The launch of the Decade of the Filipino Child in 1977 promised to free children from poverty, illness and exploitation. But children in urban squatter areas appear to have benefited little. Infant mortality in Tondo is three times as high as in the affluent Manila suburb of San Miguel. Many of the babies die from preventable diseases such as pneumonia or diarrhoea.

The children born in Manila's slums are particularly vulnerable

to diarrhoea because they are unlikely to be breastfed, their mothers being forced to take jobs whenever the opportunity arises. They are unlikely to get the bottled milk and weaning food they need, and there is little of the clean, piped drinking water that could reduce the incidence of diarrhoea. Water pressure in Pandacan is so low that water barely trickles out of the taps.

The problems of Manila's squatters are made worse by the high cost of land in the city. Only 12 per cent of Manila's residents can afford to buy or rent a legal house or flat on the open market. Land is expensive not because it is scarce but because it is hoarded. There are large tracts of unused land around the city and even in the city centre.

Some migrant families find jobs at the minimum Manila wage, but they are the lucky few. Unemployment in Tondo is as high as 65 per cent, and employment prospects in the city are not improving.

But child labour is on the increase. In Tondo, children work amid the garbage, earning a few pesos a day by sorting out tin, bottles, paper, scrap metal and bones from the pile. Others sell cigarettes, papers and flowers to drivers waiting at traffic lights along city highways. As a result, most of Manila's hospital beds are occupied by the victims of road accidents.

Street-begging, which can bring in as much as \$3.50-\$5.50 per day, or three times the local minimum daily wage, is also on the rise. Chil-

dren are also turning to drugs. Amphetamines and cocaine-based cough syrups are available over the counter in local shops. According to Dr. Suva, efforts to control their sales have met with little success.

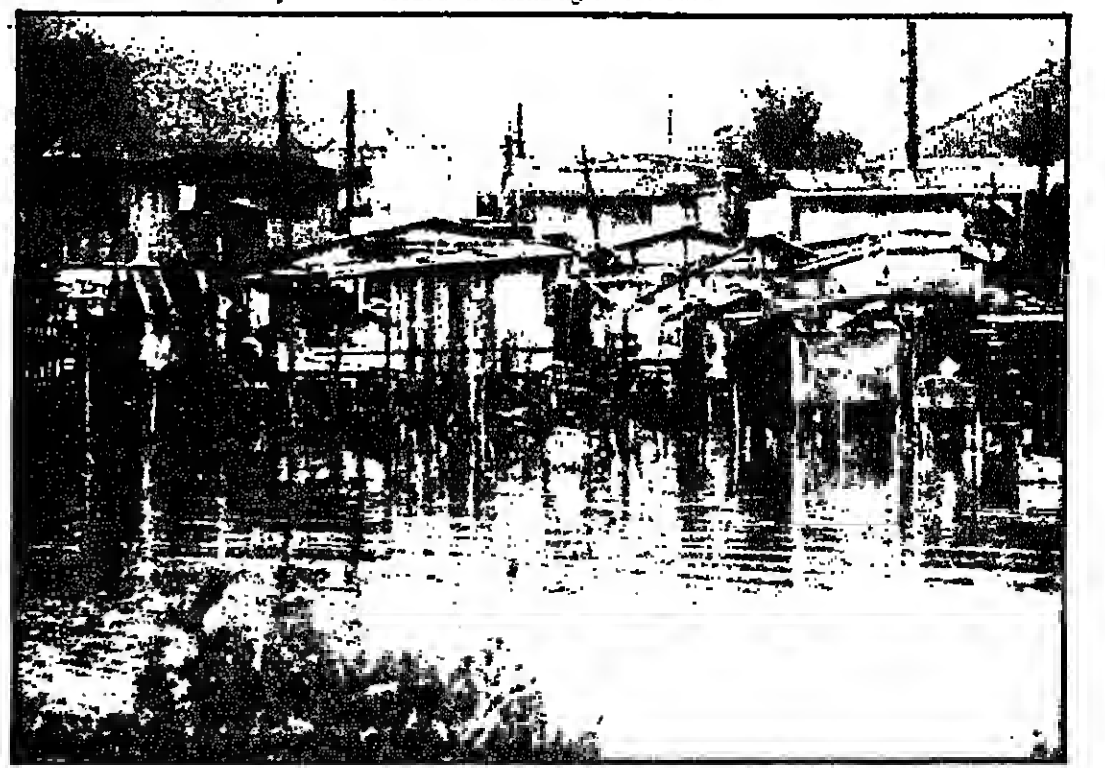
Because drugs cost money, addiction drugs adolescents into crime. Child prostitution is growing, and with it the rate of venereal disease. Particularly wor-

tying is the growth in the number of penicillin-resistant cases.

Nearly 19 years ago President Marcos came to power with a vision of a new society in the Philippines enjoying growth, stability and prosperity. In a recent televised "seminar" the president told his cabinet ministers: "We have not failed. We have succeeded in attending to the basic

needs of our people." Yet the figures show that 70 per cent of the families of the Tondo Foreshore live below the poverty line.

Unless the Manila Health department attracts the funding to run more urban squatter projects, one in three of Manila's squatters will die without having access to any medical attention — Earthscan feature.



Most of Manila's rural migrants come to the city in search of prosperity. Most find only squalor, malnutrition and disease (Earthscan photo)

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English joggers take a breather in Amman

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Two English joggers and a Canadian photographer are currently in Amman on a stop-over after covering 5,500 kilometres through Europe and Turkey. The three energetic young men have set themselves the ambitious goal of around-the-world jogging trip.

Robin Cross, 24-year-old artist and designer and 23-year-old Henry Weston, journalist, both are from Great Britain. Steve Walker from Canada 22-year-old, is accompanying them by bicycle carrying the barest necessities for the trip.

The team set off on April 1 this year, from the point of departure, Tower Bridge in London, to France, Germany, Austria, Italy, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Turkey and Syria where they had been delayed for three weeks before the Syrian authorities issued them exit visas to Jordan.

During their unique adventure they encountered extraordinary experiences and had to face danger more than once. They have been robbed in France, arrested at a Yugoslavian military base that they thought was a camping site, they have been held at gunpoint by soldiers in Turkey and were chased by wild wolves inside the Turkish territories. They also were delayed for 28 days at the Turkish-Syrian borders while officials argued over visa formalities.

"These obstacles can not be compared with the knowledge we gained and the goal we are aiming to secure," they told the Jordan Times.

They added that they hope to make their mark in the Guinness Book of World Records as well as raise money for the World Wildlife Fund.

Since Leaving London they

undertaking this round-the-world marathon, Robin Cross said: "We are proving that if a man sets a goal to himself he can attain everything."

Henry Weston said: "It is interesting for us to get acquainted with different countries, and we enjoy the experiences along our route, inspite the obstacles we had to face."

During their stop-over in Jordan which they described its people as generous and hospitable, they are expecting some aid especially from those who encourage sports in order to raise enough money to go on with their aim, hoping to set a new record, 25,000 kilometres breaking the old mark 10,500 miles, they said.

Their next stage of their trek includes Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates (UAE), Oman, India, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Australia, United States then back to London from New York, this, they said will take them another two years of their life.

When they go back to England, the three runners intend to write a book about their experiences during the long and exhaustive trial.



English joggers, Robin Cross and Henry Weston running their way around the world.

Kuwait defeats Qatar

SINGAPORE (R) — Defending champions Kuwait opened their quest for a second title with a closely-fought 1-0 Group 'A' win over Qatar after an own goal.

The first half was scoreless. Then in the 50th minute Kuwait striker Moayyad Haddad pounced on a loose ball in a goalmouth melee and his shot at goalkeeper Yousif Ahmed was deflected into the net by Qatar defender Ibrahim Al-Rumaili.

The Qataris almost scored first in the 21st minute when striker Ali Mohammed missed an open goal after taking a low cross from Khalid El-Mohamady.

Kuwait also came close in the 36th and 48th minutes but their efforts were thwarted by Qatar's acrobatic goalkeeping.

Spanish referee Augusto Castillo cautioned five players — four Kuwaitis and one Qatari — for unsporting conduct during the match.

Kuwait lead Group 'A' with the two points from Monday night's victory, while Iran head Group 'B' with four points from two wins.

Three-times winners Iran produced two stunning long-range shots in the second half to trounce China 2-0 in a Group 'B' match at the Asian Cup Soccer Championships here Monday night.

Iran, winners in 1968, 1972 and 1976, fought back to take control after a scoreless first half and stunned the 20,000 crowd when midfielder Naser Mohammad Khani put them ahead after 56 minutes.

Khani curled a 25-metre direct free-kick over China's five-man wall and leave goalkeeper Yang Ning flatfooted.

Iran, who beat the United Arab Emirates 3-0 last Saturday, increased their lead after 67 minutes when midfielder Fiedzia Ziaaradshahi collected a weak clearance from the Chinese defence and sent a 35-metre drive past Yang Ning.

Earlier, the lanky Chinese goalkeeper had made three brilliant first-half saves including an acrobatic dive to tip over another 30-metre shot from fullback Asgar Hajloo which had dipped just below the bar.

IOC chief optimistic on future of Olympic movement

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (R) — The International Olympic Committee (IOC) conceded it could not prevent political boycotts of the games, its president, Juan Antonio Samaranch, told a news conference Sunday.

Samaranch, a former Spanish ambassador to Moscow, said he was optimistic about the international political situation and believed the world was at the beginning of a new detente.

"If in 1988 relations between the two super powers are better than today... all National Olympic Committees will be present at Seoul. But if the situation is worse, we can be sure that once again we shall face difficulties," he said.

A special IOC meeting called to determine how the games could be protected from political interference stopped short of banning boycotting countries from competing in future Olympics.

A resolution unanimously approved at the end of the two-day meeting ruled, however, that National Olympic Committee officials from boycotting countries would not be accredited to the games.

Samaranch said the question of officials to whom this applied would be discussed with the international sports federations.

which oversee individual sports. The resolution was "a very good one. It is strong enough", he told the news conference, at which he was pressed over the decision not to enforce a ban on boycotting countries.

Samaranch said the executive board would publish its reply to a Soviet letter accusing Olympic leaders of irregularities in their dealings with the Los Angeles organisers.

He also said he would reply to a letter from Cuban President Fidel Castro calling for the Seoul Games to be split between North and South Korea.

The IOC president said the meeting had not discussed whether any 1988 events could be held in North Korea, though he repeated an earlier offer to preside over a meeting between the two Koreas to help them form a single team.

Samaranch also said invitations to compete in the Olympic Games would in future be issued by the IOC rather than by organising committees.

The meeting at the headquarters of the Olympic governing body was notable for an apparent reduction of pressure by the Soviet Union to have the 1988 games removed from Seoul.

The Soviet Union, which led a 15-nation communist boycott of the Los Angeles Games, has expressed dissatisfaction in recent weeks at the prospect of attending the 1988 Olympics in a country with which it has no diplomatic ties. But there was no East Bloc opposition to the resolution which pledged support for Seoul and Calgary, where the 1988 Winter Games will be staged.

The boycott of Los Angeles was based on claims that the Los Angeles organisers and the IOC itself had failed to comply with the Olympic Charter.

Neither of the Soviet delegates at the Lausanne meeting voiced any opposition to a clause in the declaration which insisted that only the IOC was competent to judge whether an organising committee was complying with the charter.

Lendl closer to his 2nd Grand Slam title

MELBOURNE (R) — World number two Ivan Lendl, chasing his second Grand Slam title of the year, reached the fourth round of the Australian Open Tennis Championships Monday when he completed a 2-6, 6-2, 6-4, 6-4 win over Algerian-born Frenchman Tarik Benhabiles.

The top-seed wasted no time in securing his place in the last 16 — where he meets number nine seed Kevin Curren of South Africa — when he resumed his match against Benhabiles, which was halted Sunday night because of rain with the French title holder leading 4-2 in the third set.

Chris Evert-Lloyd was equally impressive as she swept into the semifinals of the women's singles, chalking up the 1,000th victory of her career with a smooth 6-2, 6-1 win over Sophie Amiel of France.

Now only Australian Wendy Turnbull stands between Lloyd and another crack at Martina Navratilova, who is seeking her seventh successive Grand Slam triumph.

Turnbull, who has only one win over Lloyd in 19 meetings, beat veteran American Sharon Walsh 7-5, 6-2 in another quarter-final match.

Lendl, who beat the injured

John McEnroe in five sets to win his first major title in the French Open in June, was not wholly content with his form against Benhabiles, ranked 124 places below him on the computer rankings.

"I wasn't happy with the way I returned serve, but I put them in on the important points," said Lendl.

But the Czechoslovak was pleased with his serve and volleying, two weapons he will need against Curren, one of the hardest hitters in the game.

Defending champion Mats Wilander, seeded to meet Lendl in the final, was one of two Swedes to secure a quarter-final berth, though he had to fight all the way against compatriot Stefan Simonsson before winning 2-6, 6-1, 5-7, 6-2, 6-3.

Wilander said he was becoming accustomed to playing his fellow-countrymen.

Teenager Stefan Edberg, who may turn out to be the best of the current crop of Swedes, had a far easier passage into the last eight when he cruised past American Lloyd Bourne 6-2, 6-2, 6-2.

Joakim Nystrom will bid to become the third viking in the last eight when he meets 14th seeded American Ben Testerman Tuesday.

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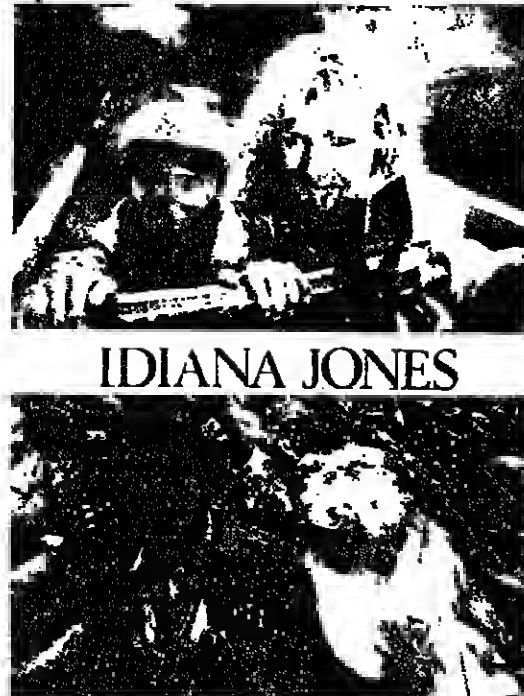
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TIME

DEAL US IN ON ARMS TALK: Kohl KOHL IN WASHINGTON (West German Chancellor makes the rounds among U.S. leaders) HANDS ACROSS THE WALL (East and West Germany enjoy brisk trade relations) LITERARY SHOCKER (Bernard-Henri Levy's new novel is the talk of Paris) BOMB PLOT FOILED (Italian police uncover bomb plot against U.S. embassy) JARUZELSKI MEETS THE PRESS (Polish leader defends his record)

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Kuala Lumpur to expand role of the private sector

KUALA LUMPUR — Ever since Daim Zainuddin was catapulted from private businessman to finance minister four months ago, people have wondered just how he would attempt to direct Malaysia's resource-blessed economy.

They now have an answer.

The soft-spoken, 45-year-old self-made millionaire friend of Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad has, in presenting his first budget, decided to boost the private sector without jettisoning Malaysia's strategy of consolidating its precarious public finances and improving the balance of payments.

The government was forced to start trimming its sails in 1981 when it became clear that its counter-cyclical strategy of ambitious spending would not bear the world recession and would involve borrowing that might jeopardise Malaysia's credit standing.

It is still not out of the woods, but the Western mini-recovery of the past 18 months has brought some interim comfort.

Malaysia has benefited by being an oil and gas producer, a major exporter of tin, timber, rubber and palm oil, and a budding manufacturer. Real growth in Gross Domestic Product is expected to be 6.9 per cent this year, after a better-than-hoped-for 5.9 per cent in 1983.

But the world outlook remains uncertain — Malaysia's growth in 1985 is projected lower at 6.7 per cent — and the government has been reflecting further on its approach.

Lower than planned expansion in recent years has already rekindled discussion about the new economic policy begun in 1970, an axiom of Malaysian politics, because the policy uses growth to give Bumiputras (indigenous Malays) a greater share of the country's wealth in relation to the local Chinese community and foreign interests.

Private sector

More recently the government has recognised the need for a greater role for the private sector.

Dr. Mahathir has already announced plans to privatise the national airline, telecommunications, railways and the container port. A more relaxed attitude has emerged over foreign shareholdings in resource — based industrial investment, and the government is overhauling the whole system of industrial incentives.

In a budget move redolent of controversial supply-side eco-

nomics, Mr. Daim announced a MS310 million (\$129 million) personal income tax give away which reduced the highest marginal tax rate from 55 per cent to 40 per cent add cut by up to 36 per cent the tax bills of middle and high income earners.

Though vulnerable to attack for producing a "rich man's budget", Mr. Daim in fact acted out of a need to match Malaysian tax rates with neighbouring Singapore's, as well as his conviction as an entrepreneur that the cuts will increase productivity and savings.

Whether people invest those savings or opt for consumption may now have to await his promised improvements in the local interest rate structure.

The MS310 million give-away, together with other hand-outs in child relief, lower estate duties and help for resource-based industries, will be more than recouped by other measures.

Perhaps drawing on his own business experience, Mr. Daim slapped a novel 10 per cent levy on sales of shares by unquoted listed companies, thereby hitting property developers and speculators.

Sharply higher vehicle import duties, excise taxes, registration fees and road taxes will clobber car owners.

Personal income tax contributes a meagre and probably improvable 9 per cent of total government revenue. By contrast, various petroleum revenues will contribute 22 per cent of the total this year.

This underlines how Malaysia's oil production, up about 17 per cent to 440,000 barrels a day (b/d) this year, has sustained government revenues, as have rising natural gas exports to Japan. Next year's projected petroleum output of 450,000 b/d may go even higher if world oil prices weaken further.

This begs the question of whether the government has been a little short-sighted by refusing to trim its current expenditure.

The politics of cutting jobs in a bureaucracy overhauled by Malays are highly sensitive, but current expenditures have risen every year for the past decade. Costs for the "general administration" category will rise an enormous 14 per cent this year, an even larger 19 per cent next.

Spending cuts

In development spending the biggest cuts next year, as expected, hit defence and internal security. But cuts of 51 per cent, along with smaller reductions this

year and in 1983, follow sharp rises in 1979-82.

The other sectors to suffer heavily are public utilities, transport and communications.

Federal development spending is projected to fall to MS7.65 billion, down 17 per cent on this year's expected figure of MS9.24 billion.

If the 27 previously free-spending statutory bodies and companies known as off-budget agencies are taken into account — they include the state oil company Petronas, the heavy industries corporation and the Malaysian airline — total development spending is cut 10 per cent to MS 14.85 billion.

The overall public sector deficit is then further narrowed from an expected MS6.8 billion in 1984 to a forecast MS5 billion next year.

The government says development spending has had to bear the brunt in this budget for the fourth year running because it depends on foreign borrowing and external balance of payments constraints intervened.

The merchandise trade deficits of 1981 and 1982, and the alarming deterioration in the current account, came as a considerable shock to the government and it has sought remedies through development spending cuts ever since.

Mr. Daim has resisted reversing this.

Irrevocable commitments already made on certain projects have caused Malaysia's foreign debt to go on increasing this year, from MS30.9 billion at the end of 1983 to an unofficial MS39 billion at the end of this year.

Net borrowing in 1984 is officially put at MS7.1 billion, well up on last year's MS5.12 billion, but at least the off-budget agencies' spending is peaking.

The balance of payments has meanwhile been responding, but in mixed fashion.

Higher debt servicing is expected to push the invisible gap, a record MS9.9 billion this year, to MS10.8 billion in 1985, more than wiping out the healthy trade surpluses of both years.

Some of Mr. Daim's minor budget measures to encourage tourism and shipping try to address this problem.

The current account deficit, which hit a record MS8 billion in 1982, is expected to have been cut to MS5.2 billion this year, but will narrow only slightly to MS4.9 billion in 1985, a possible fact that it has less priority — Financial Times news features.

Argentina, banks reach agreement

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentina has reached agreement with creditor banks on a major loan and rescheduling package that gives it more time to revive its inflation-hit economy and eases a threat to the world banking system.

The \$5.5 billion of fresh loans and rescheduling of \$16 billion of existing borrowing announced by the economy ministry late Sunday night mean that President Raul Alfonsín has achieved his goal of refinancing Argentina's debts during his first year in power, which he completes a week Monday.

The loans will cover the country's balance of payments deficit and fund its existing debts until the end of 1985, giving Mr. Alfonsín a breathing space to deal with inflation running at nearly 1,000 per cent a year, amid mounting pressure for higher wages and a continuing flight of capital abroad.

Brazil and Mexico, the only developing countries with larger external debts than Argentina's \$45 billion, have already reached accords with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the usual prerequisite for major rescheduling packages.

But during nearly a year of discussions, Argentina had resisted the IMF's tough demands for austerity, putting an accord in doubt

and sending tremors of concern through the world financial community.

Argentina has reached a tentative agreement with the IMF and details have not yet emerged of what promises it made to reach a deal with the 11-bank committee representing its 320 international creditor banks.

The banks will provide Argentina with \$3.7 billion of loans plus \$500 million of trade credits. Official credit agencies will offer an additional \$1 billion and the IMF \$270 million, for a total of \$5.47 billion — the figure Mr. Alfonsín said was needed in fresh funds up to the end of next year.

The agreement was a precondition for a further \$1.42 billion IMF loan expected to be finalised in the next few weeks.

This will form part of an overall package to refinance some \$20 billion of Argentina's foreign debt. The economy ministry statement said banks had agreed to reschedule for up to 12 years debts falling due between 1982 and the end of 1985, estimated by bankers at \$16 billion.

The U.S. Treasury is expected to provide a loan of up to \$500 million to tide Argentina over until the official credits become available at the end of this year or early next.

Japan plans to liberalise trade with Third World

GENEVA (R) — Japan plans to announce a trade liberalisation package before the end of this month and many of the tariff cuts being studied will interest developing countries, a senior Japanese official said Sunday.

Mr. Yoshiji Nogami, director of the foreign ministry's economic affairs bureau, said the package was intended to ease the way for a special meeting of the world trade body GATT in 1985 to prepare for a new round of global trade talks, possibly in 1986.

"We are working on advanced implementation of Tokyo round tariff cuts, the lowering of tariffs on an MFN (Most Favoured Nation) basis and an improvement of the GSP (Generalised System of Preferences) scheme," Mr. Nogami told Reuters in an interview.

The Tokyo round of trade talks in the 1970s foresaw major cuts in industrial tariffs by 1986. The GSP scheme gives developing nations favoured tariff treatment.

"It is hoped these positive measures on more than 1,200 items, a large portion of interest to developing countries, can be announced before the end of this month," Mr. Nogami said.

Mr. Nogami, in Geneva to attend the annual General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) conference which closed

last Friday, declined to give further details, saying the initiative had to be submitted to the customs deliberation council, assigned by Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone to examine trade matters.

European Community delegate Mr. Paul Luytens earlier told GATT Brussels was ready to eliminate or liberalise 26 quantitative import restrictions maintained in eight member states.

The items "would be of particular interest to developing countries," he said.

The statements followed an agreement last week patching up a major North-South rift among GATT's 90 member nations which threatened the future of the treaty organisation and hopes for a new trade round.

The United States, backed by Japan and the community, succeeded in the face of strong opposition from developing countries in getting the rapidly growing \$500 billion a year global trade in services such as banking, insurance and shipping included in

the GATT work programme. Some developing countries are fearful of negotiating away tariff protection for their own infant service industries and believe if new subjects are introduced into GATT it could divert attention from areas such as tropical goods and textiles.

They accuse industrial nations of not honouring pledges to roll back protectionism, are cool towards the idea of a new global round, and say any negotiations should be restricted to products and not include services.

Mr. Nogami said he hoped the community move and Tokyo's tariff cuts would help bring consensus over a new round but "we strongly believe the negotiations have to include services".

Japan first broached the issue of a new round at the 1983 GATT conference but "there was rejection, not only from the Third World but from some developing countries too," he said.

"Now people are talking seriously about it. There is a growing realisation the major items on the work programme can perhaps only be solved through multilateral negotiations," he concluded.

Dollar downs mark, sterling

LONDON (R) — The dollar moved higher again on world currency markets Monday, jumping to around 3.12 German marks in nervous trading.

The dollar began at 3.1160 marks in Frankfurt compared with late quotes of 3.1132 at Friday's New York close.

Within an hour the dollar was up to 3.1225 marks in Europe. However, it then ran into some profit-taking and retreated to 3.1165.

The American currency's continuing firmness, reversing a weaker trend of a few weeks ago, pushed the pound sterling down to around \$1.920, not far from its all-time low of \$1.865 hit in October.

Dealers said the market's continuing love affair with the dollar was being fuelled by a growing conviction that the recent sharp decline in U.S. interest rates has bottomed out.

Dealers said the about-turn in sentiment on U.S. credit markets late last week, depressed by a sharp rise in the American M-1 money supply and a firmer federal funds rate for overnight interbank lending, had led to renewed dollar demand which grew as a chart point at 3.10 marks was broken on Friday.

One Frankfurt trader said the market is now waiting to see if the dollar can break above 3.12 marks which would leave the way clear to 3.15.

However, traders are nervous about possible intervention by the German central bank to push the dollar down.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Shares prices closed higher after a quiet session with the FTSE 100 index at 1530 GMT up 10 points at 1191.3 after having touched a new high of 1191.7 around 1500 GMT.

British Telecom shares were the main attraction in first time dealings, fluctuating between 93 and 97p compared with its 50p paid off price.

Profit taking left electricals below their highs after a firm opening ahead of B.T.'s debut. Plessey at 214 after 218 and GEC at 232 both added 8p while Cable and Wireless added 17p to 438.

Government bonds were overshadowed by the interest in B.T., showing movements of 1/16 point either way. Lower U.K. retail sales for October had little impact, dealers said.

ICI was up 2p to 680 and Beecham rose 5p to 383 after recent results. BOC gained 4p to 257 ahead of figures later this week.

Banks were firm with Midland up 18p at 357 on news Argentina agreed in principle to a financing package with its commercial banks. Insurances moved against the market trend and showed declines of two or three pence. Oils saw B.P. up 3p at 503 and Shell 5p high at 645.

LONDON-EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One sterling	1.1900/10	U.S. dollars	
One U.S. dollar	1.3247/50	Canadian dollars	
	3.1190/1205	West German marks	
	3.5293/5305	Dutch guilders	
	2.5670/85	Swiss francs	
	62.68/71	Belgian francs	
	9.5350/5600	French francs	
	1927.0/8.0	Italian lire	
	248.27/37	Japanese yen	
	8.8425/8525	Swedish crowns	
	8.9850/9950	Norwegian crowns	
	11.2200/2300	Danish crowns	
One ounce of gold	327.60/328.10	U.S. dollars	

Turkish petrol prices rise

ANKARA (R) — Turkey has raised petrol, diesel fuel, heating oil and liquid gas prices by between 5.9 and 7.1 per cent, despite a government pledge on Friday that they would not be increased.

Energy Minister Cemal Buyukbas, quoted by newspapers, said the rises, effective from Saturday, were due to fluctuations in the Turkish lira's rate against the dollar, and not because of a new tax

on oil refineries.

On Friday, the energy ministry said press reports that a six per cent consumption tax on refineries would put up prices by that amount were false. Later, state television broadcast an assurance that prices would not be raised.

Energy ministry officials, refusing to comment Monday, said petrol prices have risen 34 per

cent in the last six months while the lira has fallen 25 per cent against the dollar.

The Turkish Economic News Agency EBA said refineries, which paid the new tax on output from Saturday, decided to pass on the cost to retailers immediately.

The government says income from the tax will go to a fund for projects, including road-building.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

"We don't need a higher standard of living! We need a higher standard of loving!"

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

KALEF
GUAVE
ZOAMAN
GEEREM

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: _____

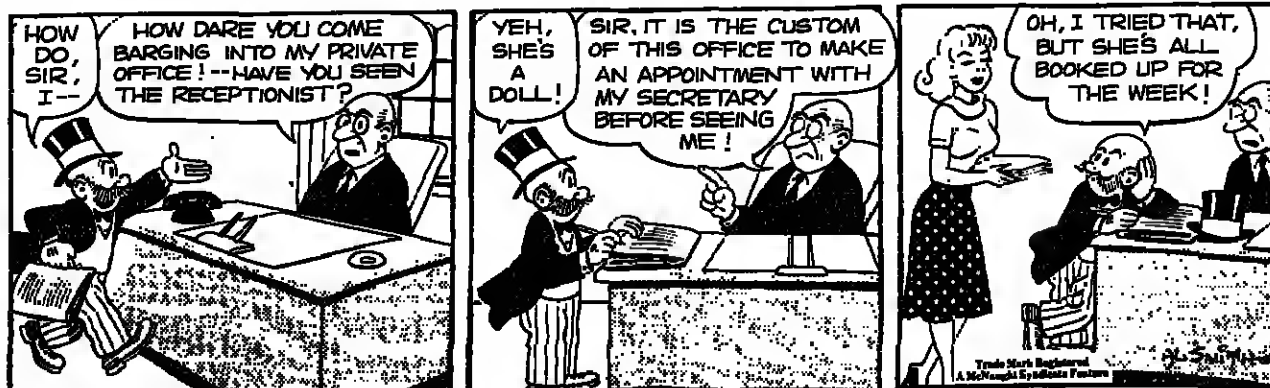
(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: JUICE MAJOR EXPEND STYME
Answer: What the government expects to get from income taxes — "EXACT MONIES"

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE Daily Crossword by Arthur W. Palmer

ACROSS

- the Red
- Young codfish
- rickety
- Corrida
- attraction
- Fr. philosopher
- Seaweed extract
- Team
- Settle angrily
- Strange
- Attendant
- Fed
- Francis or
- Winglike
- Wrestler's area
- Senial position
- Explosion
- Turk or Finn follower
- Foresee a bare possibility
- Season in
- Seasons
- Nursenaid
- Debatable
- Malancholy
- Nautical term
- Nap
- Lollipop
- Asphalt glove
- Substitute
- McEnroe specialty
- Chow owner's request
- Mind
- Canary's relative
- Season
- Marquette
- Noggin
- Speaker of baseball

DOWN

- Raison d'
- Horse color
- Eye part
- Tangible
- Posture
- Nab
- Shine's companion
- Stop — cline
- Headquarters for thieves
- Filled
- Stravinsky or Sikorsky
- Hereditary
- pleasantly castra
- Irish Gaelic
- Quarter, e.g.
- Lark
- Tumbler
- Opp. of lem.
- Residue
- Lariat
- Washed
- Pond plants
- Early king of Crete
- Broad scarf
- Or, letter
- Guilt
- Name written backwards
- Small valley
- Variety of quartz
- Temps

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

PRIDE DECEALS
STATION OVERVIEW
COUPLET MARCIAT
ARISE EAT LIOB BIL
RAISH STONE BIL
CHIEF ANA DANIE
ESCROW ENGORGED
BRIGHTER
EPHEMERIA MITISQUE
FRATIS ENIC SPAINS
GENE RUDOLPH
DENSE FIT LAC TISE
SUPREME CRITICION
CEMENTIS AIRCANE
ERNEST REPEL

51 Ord, for one
52 Hrs. month
53 — me longer
54 Family mem-
ber's abbr.
56 Sixth sense
57 Meadow

Moscow warns of retaliation against Star Wars Technology

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet daily Pravda warned the United States Monday that Moscow would respond to American "Star Wars" technology, but appealed for an accord to prevent the arms race spreading into space.

In a commentary which accused Washington of aiming for military superiority through space weapons, the newspaper also indicated that Moscow would regard the issue as a priority in arms control talks next year.

Pravda accused Washington of pouring billions of dollars into developing orbital anti-missile systems in a bid to secure first-strike capability without risk of retaliation.

"They have clearly decided they have found a way of overtaking the other side militarily via the cosmos," the Communist Party daily said.

"But this is an unattainable

hope. The USSR will do everything necessary to foil any attempts to violate the established military balance," it added.

"If one side creates what it calls an impenetrable anti-missile shield, the other will be forced to take inevitable measures to create strategic weaponry which would penetrate this shield," Pravda said.

"Our state is in a position to reply adequately to any military threat to its security," it added.

It said space weapons would be a central topic at talks between Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in Geneva next

month and indicated Moscow would expect Washington to show a readiness to compromise.

"Time will show if the American side is ready to take account of the realities of the modern world and the principles of equality and mutual security," the paper said.

Pravda said U.S. strategy involved building up greater first-strike capability by developing new missiles such as the MX, Mid-gutman and Trident-2 and new warplanes such as the Stealth bomber.

At the same time, Washington planned to protect the U.S. from retaliation by creating an orbiting system of weapons to shoot down incoming missiles with lasers.

"If this programme were realised, then the unleashing of a nuclear war would be only half a step away," it said.

The Communist Party daily did not give any details of how Moscow planned to counter the U.S. space weapons programme if Washington goes ahead with it.

The Soviet Union has fiercely attacked President Reagan's space-based defence system plans from the outset.

Western analysts believe that fear of a growing U.S. technological lead in the area was a factor which prompted Moscow to agree to resume an arms dialogue. Military experts have said Moscow appears to lag badly behind in much of the technology required, although it may have developed better lasers than the U.S.

Senior Soviet scientists have indicated that Moscow might not try to match the U.S. programme, but develop instead simple anti-satellite systems to knock any orbiting American weapons out of action.

French aide heads for New Caledonia

PARIS (R) — A newly appointed French high commissioner was flying to New Caledonia Monday to resolve a violent conflict over autonomy plans for the South Pacific island territory.

Edgard Pisani, widely respected as an authority on Third World affairs, was expected to arrive in New Caledonia Tuesday.

Prime Minister Laurent Fabius named him for the mission Sunday after militant Kanaks and indigenous Melanesians declared an independent state and formed a provisional government in the territory which France has ruled since 1854.

He was given two months to present new proposals for the future status of New Caledonia, where a referendum on independence has been scheduled for 1989.

Violence flared after Kanaks boycotted polls last month which elected an interim national assembly, and on Friday a white farmer and a Kanak were shot dead.

There was no immediate response from France to an offer by the rebels to halt the violence if 13 people detained on civil disorder charges were released.

Mr. Pisani appeared to be under no illusions about the task facing him when he told reporters Sunday: "It will be a tremendous challenge and I know it will be difficult."

Lionel Jospin, head of the ruling Socialist Party, said Mr. Pisani's appointment should help defuse tension and produce a solution taking account of Kanak aspirations to independence while respecting the rights of each community.

Jacques Toubon of the right-wing Neo-Gaullist RPR Party said it was clear that the problem was not racial, but rather one of a tiny minority of troublemakers.

He urged Mr. Pisani to use security forces to restore order and to ensure that constitutional rights were respected.

A special debate on the issue is expected to be held in the National Assembly in Paris this week. Meanwhile a separate delegation of eight French senators left for New Caledonia via Los Angeles Sunday night on a fact-finding mission.

The house of the president of the territorial government was set

on fire Sunday and a bomb was thrown at the home of a separatist leader who offered to hold talks with French officials.

No injuries were reported in either attack.

Separatist leader Jean-Marie Tuhau said Sunday that Melanesians seeking independence for the French territory were ready to talk with the newly appointed French government representative as soon as certain obstacles were removed.

Territorial President Dick Ukeiwe, who met with French President Francois Mitterrand in Paris on Saturday, rejected proposals for talks with the Melanesians, or Kanaks as the original inhabitants of the Pacific island group are called.

Authorities in Noumea said Mr. Ukeiwe's house on Lifou Island in the loyalty chain was burned early Sunday, but it was not known who was responsible.

Sunday evening, a bomb was thrown at Mr. Tuhau's home in Koua, a Noumea suburb, security officials said. No individual or group asserted responsibility for the attack.

20 Tamils killed while fleeing from army camp

COLOMBO (R) — Twenty guerrillas were killed Monday when they tried to escape from an army camp as it came under attack from other rebels, a government spokesman said.

The spokesman told Reuters one soldier was killed and two wounded in the attack on the camp at Vavuniya in northern province.

The guerrillas, fighting for a separate Tamil state, apparently launched the attack to free detained colleagues held at the camp, the spokesman said.

While the army repulsed the attack from outside, the rebels inside tried to escape and 20 were killed, he added.

It was the latest in a series of attacks by guerrillas who have said they will proclaim a separate state on Jan. 14.

The spokesman said security forces, sweeping the north eastern jungles following rebel attacks on two prison rehabilitation camps and two fishing villages, killed 12 more guerrillas Sunday.

The guerrillas killed about 80 people in the raids last Friday. The government said more than 65 guerrillas died in subsequent clashes with security forces.

Eleven people, including some women and children, were killed on Saturday night when rebels attacked two eastern province fishing villages. Security forces were continuing the hunt for the guerrillas in the eastern jungles, the spokesman said.

One Tamil youth was killed Sunday night when police opened fire at a crowd of suspected separatist guerrillas who defied a curfew and let off firecrackers at the coastal town of Talaimannar.

The crowd also set fire to several houses and drove away Sinhalese fishermen living there, he said.

In another incident at Talaimannar Sunday, 10 guerrillas are reported to have landed in two boats and escaped to the jungle, the spokesman said.

He declined to say if the boats had come from south India.

National Security Minister Lalith Athulathudum said about 4,000 guerrillas trained in south India were poised to invade Sri Lanka to fight for a separate state. New Delhi has denied this.

The minister said at the weekend some men had landed in the north from south India and taken part in the attacks on the farms.

Sri Lankan spokesman have said the air force and navy fired at boats and foiled at least three attempts by guerrillas to land in the north since Friday.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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ANSWERS TO BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
 ♠A8742 ♦A6 ♣AK9873
 The bidding has proceeded:
 South West North East
 1 ♠ 1 ♣ 2 ♥ 2 ♠

What do you bid now?

A.—If you were to bid what you think you can make, we would suggest you bounce into seven hearts. However, that is not the problem here — you must try to buy the contract. If you leap to any slam, it is almost certain the opponents, who are not vulnerable, will sacrifice — and the price rates to be very cheap indeed. Therefore, we suggest you make a tactical underbid of four hearts. Should the opponents save at the four-level, bid five hearts, and continue raising hearts in the hope that the opponents, at some point, will feel that they have pushed you to too high a level and let you play the hand.

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
 ♠6 ♣AJ1085 ♦A53 ♣Q102
 The bidding has proceeded:
 South West North East
 1 ♥ Dble 2 ♥ Pass

What action do you take?

A.—Again, this is not so much a question as what your side can make; but what the opponents' potential is. What has happened to the spade suit? If you pass tamely, West will double again and the opponents will find their spade fit at the two-level. You can make life difficult for West by rebidding three hearts now.

Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
 ♠AQJ643 ♥K1093 ♦8 ♣Q7
 The bidding has proceeded:
 South West North East
 1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass

What do you bid now?

A.—Usually, with this type of 6-4 distribution you bid your higher-ranking, six-card suit first and then your lower-ranking, four-card suit. However, when your long suit is a major, there are other considerations. The rule we adopt and recommend highly is to rebid the six-card major suit with

minimum opening bid, but to show a secondary four-card suit on hands that are better than minimum.

Q.4—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
 ♠QJ108 ♥K6 ♦843 ♣9872
 The bidding has proceeded:
 East South West North
 1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass
 2 ♥ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
 3 ♥ Pass 4 ♠ Pass

What action do you take?

A.—This is the time to forget about the point count. East-West have staggered into game with nothing to spare in the way of high cards. While you have only 6 HCP, you are a heavy favorite to take at least three tricks on defense. The cards are not lying well for your opponents. Capitalize on it with a double.

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
 ♠954 ♥AK1062 ♦5 ♣KQ83
 The bidding has proceeded:
 South West North East
 1 ♥ 2 ♥ 3 ♥ 4 ♠
 4 ♠ Pass 4 ♥ Pass
 5 ♥ 5 ♠ Pass Pass

What action do you take?

A.—Partner's pass is forcing, so you must not pass. Partner surely has a singleton spade at most, and two aces for his strong bidding. Since your hands fit exceptionally well, 12 tricks should not prove too difficult. Bid six hearts.

Q.6—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
 ♠8 ♥107632 ♦J632 ♣AK5
 The bidding has proceeded:
 West North South East
 1 ♠ 3 ♥ 4 ♠ ?

What action do you take?

A.—Certainly you are prepared to sacrifice at five hearts. However, you should prepare for the possibility that the opponents will bid on in spades, and that partner will be on lead. Since a heart lead is likely to prove futile at best, bid five clubs to tell partner what you want led — you can convert to hearts if the opponents double.

Hayden, Hawke

Clash over polls outcome

SYDNEY (R) — Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden clashed with Prime Minister Bob Hawke Monday over why Labour lost ground in Saturday's general elections.

Mr. Hayden, deposed in favour of Mr. Hawke as Labour leader before elections in March last year, said the prime minister told him in a private meeting that he did not like his comments.

Immediately after the result, which saw Labour returned with a reduced majority, Mr. Hayden said that it was "dreadful" and "a failure".

He told reporters Monday after his talks with Mr. Hawke: "I have quite willingly undertaken to make no further such comment. But I made it very clear to the prime minister there is no way in the world in which I withdraw."

Mr. Hayden had differed strongly with Mr. Hawke's view that an abnormally high number of spoils votes cost the government seats.

"To argue that's all there is in this problem is to start erecting an alibi, with much thin shelling around it," he said in a radio interview.

Earlier this year Mr. Hayden formed a new centre-left faction within the Labour Party which some commentators saw as a possible future threat to Mr. Hawke.

Mr. Hawke, who called polls halfway through his first term to consolidate a 25-seat majority, saw the margin halved in a surprising swing to the opposition which he blamed on major confusion over voting procedures.

The new enlarged 148-seat House of Representatives (Lower House) is likely to have 81 Labour members against 67 for the National-Liberal Coalition, according to predictions with more than 85 per cent of the vote counted.

Labour also failed to gain control of the Senate where minority parties were expected to hold the balance of power.

Mr. Hawke, who has called a meeting of all parties for talks on the seven per cent spoils vote, was also attacked by the opposition on the issue.

"All the returns we've got show that the informal (invalid) vote was divided pretty evenly, 50-50 between the government and coalition," opposition leader Andrew Peacock told reporters.

Electoral officials said there would be a detailed study on the 569,000 spoils votes.

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ARAFAT LEAVES ON ARAB TOUR: Mahmoud upon his departure Monday for a tour of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat bids farewell to Arab states (Petra photo)

Rajiv Gandhi warns of threat to India

NEW DELHI (R) — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi took to the campaign trail in west India Monday warning his followers that the nation was threatened both from within and abroad.

Addressing crowds at Solapur textile town in Maharashtra state, Mr. Gandhi lashed out at his opponents, charging them with supporting what he called divisive forces.

During his first election tour of several key states, he warned that India was threatened by extremist elements and by a neighbouring country, a reference to Pakistan.

At Patna in eastern Bihar state Sunday he was quoted by the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency as saying a neighbouring state accumulating weapons could endanger Indian security.

Mr. Gandhi did not identify the country but India has repeatedly voiced concern over U.S. arms sales to Islamabad.

The United News of India (UNI) reported that two men carrying a revolver and a bomb were arrested at separate election meetings addressed by Mr. Gandhi in Bihar.

The country goes to the polls on Dec. 24 with Mr. Gandhi's Congress (I) Party expected to win.

UNI said security guards Sunday arrested one man carrying a bomb as he tried to move closer to the platform on which Mr. Gandhi was speaking at Nawada town.

Later in the day police arrested another man with a revolver 50 kilometres away at Biharsharif during another Gandhi rally, it said.

Security was tightened for Mr. Gandhi after his mother, Indira Gandhi, was killed by two Sikh bodyguards on Oct. 31.

Sikh extremists had threatened to kill Mr. Gandhi and his mother after a government move to quell Sikh separatists in Punjab state.

All major political parties have started formal campaigning to win over about 378 million voters in polls for 513 parliamentary seats.

PTI quoted the Bihar secretary of the Communist Party (Marxist), G.S. Vidyarthi, as saying efforts were still being made by opposition leaders to find a single opposition candidate for each constituency.

Major groups have agreed to share about 200 seats to avoid splitting the opposition vote.

Marcos has flu, asthma, wife says

MANILA (R) — Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos has had a relapse of influenza and is suffering from asthma but has not undergone surgery, his wife said Monday.

"We will have the last laugh about the rumours circulating about his health," Imelda Marcos told visitors at the Presidential Palace.

The 67-year-old president's prolonged absence from public view has fed speculation about his health and that he might have undergone heart or kidney surgery. The rumours persisted despite palace denials and insistence that he was suffering only from incipient influenza. Cardinal Jaime Sin, the influential Archbishop of Manila, told a businessman's lunch Monday that government inability to scotch the rumours indicated it had lost its credibility.

But Mrs. Marcos told the visitors from the Bicol region of the central Philippines: "The president has had a relapse from flu

and is also suffering from asthma ... I am worried because of the complications and because of the possibility that he may catch pneumonia."

Members of the group quoted her as saying the president, who has been in power for nearly 20 years, "is indeed very interested in showing himself in public." But she would not let him do until fully recovered.

Mrs. Marcos added: "There was definitely no surgery."

Sin said rumours that Mr. Marcos had a kidney or heart surgery and was dead or dying had persisted despite statements from the Presidential Palace that he was well.

"These are days of uncertainty," Sin said. "When Malacanang (the Presidential Palace) published a photograph of Marcos reading a newspaper, were you not disappointed? Did you not scan that photograph, looking for evidence that it was a fake?"

He asked the businessman whether they had helped to spread the

rumours, adding: "Even if Marcos is responsible for most of the troubles our country is facing, it certainly is unchristian to wish him dead." Sin, an outspoken critic of the Marcos government on its human rights record, said the Christmas message of goodwill would be lost if people "savour all the rumours that the worst possible things are befalling our president."

The rumours about Mr. Marcos, who has dominated local newspaper front pages and television news broadcasts since coming to power 20 years ago, started early last month when he failed to appear in public for more than a week.

Speculation about his health continued although he appeared briefly on television with his wife and members of the cabinet and the national assembly on two occasions.

The Presidential Palace said last week Mr. Marcos had influenza and was in isolation because of a reduced immunity to infection.

Grenadians vote for new parliament

ST GEORGES, Grenada (R) — Grenada's 48,000-strong electorate began voting Monday in an election to restore parliamentary democracy in this Caribbean island, which the United States invaded just over 13 months ago.

Politicians are forecasting a high turnout in a poll contested by three main parties. The centrist New National Party (NNP) of veteran politician Herbert Blaize appears likely to win a comfortable majority of the 15 seats at stake.

The NNP was formed only three months ago with active encouragement from the United States and its Caribbean allies, who were anxious to prevent a return to power by Sir Eric Gairy's right-wing Grenada United Labour Party (GULP) which won the last election in 1976.

Sir Eric was overthrown by the leftist New Jewel Movement in 1979, but Maurice Bishop its pop-

ular leader, was killed in a palace coup which triggered the October 1983 U.S.-led military intervention.

Promising a return to stable elected government, with strict respect for political freedom, the NNP has capitalised on widespread disillusionment with both Sir Eric's right-wing populism and the leftist revolution which followed.

The party has been well funded from sympathisers overseas and has campaigned intensively over the past month.

The NNP's main opponent in the election is the GULP, which commands strong support from older people in rural areas who respect Sir Eric for his struggle to raise workers' wages in the 1950's.

Sir Eric is not standing as a candidate but he remains in complete control of his party.

On the left, the NNP is challenged by the Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement (MBPM), led

by Kendrick Radix, which groups supporters of the former revolutionary government.

The MBPM is demanding a return to Mr. Bishop's Socialist economic policies and welfare programmes and draws most of its support from young people, who are hard hit by Grenada's 30 to 35 per cent unemployment rate.

The Christian Democratic Labour Party, a Gairyite splinter faction, and four independents are also running in the election.

Security is tight and some 60 to 70 extra policemen, mostly from Barbados, have been flown in to help local police, backed by the garrison of several hundred U.S. and Caribbean troops, to maintain law and order.

Results were expected to be known by midnight (0400 GMT Tuesday) and Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon is expected to name Grenada's new prime minister Tuesday.

COLUMB

1,000-year-old mining city found

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet archaeologists have discovered the remains of 1,000-year-old silver mining city amid the towering peak of the Pamir Mountains in Central Asia. The TASS news agency reported. It said the city, at an altitude of 4,000 metres, had evidently been an administrative centre between the 10th and 12th Centuries and its inhabitants had excavated silver from even higher up the mountains. The archaeological team had uncovered the outline of the city's streets and remnants of a temple of fire for the flame-worshipping residents.

New York costliest place for offices

LONDON (R) — New York's fashionable midtown area has overtaken London's financial district as the world's most expensive place to have an office, according to a survey of property costs.

Property consultants Richard Ellis estimate that it costs nearly £57 (\$71) a year to rent and run a square foot of office space in midtown New York (\$764. per square metre). This is £2 (\$2.5) or (\$27 per square metre) more than in the city of London. Tokyo is the third most expensive city to do business in. The cheapest of 23 cities surveyed is Brussels, where one square foot costs only £7.6 (\$9.5) or (\$102 per square metre). Hong Kong, running a close second to London only three years ago, has fallen to the middle of the table because of political uncertainty, according to the consultants.

Major groups have agreed to share about 200 seats to avoid splitting the opposition vote.

PTI quoted the Bihar secretary of the Communist Party (Marxist), G.S. Vidyarthi, as saying efforts were still being made by opposition leaders to find a single opposition candidate for each constituency.

Major groups have agreed to share about 200 seats to avoid splitting the opposition vote.

Yugoslav sets world record

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) — Vahid Mutapic of Sarajevo set a new world record by working 96 hours without a break, the national news agency Tanjug reported. He worked four hours longer than the previous record held by an American cited in the Guinness Book of World Records, the report said. Mutapic, a 25-year-old factory worker, started packing 15-kilogramme spools of wire into cases. He packed without stopping for 96 hours, by which time he had handled more than 3,000 spools. Tanjug said.

Many reasons found for lines in Soviet stores

MOSCOW (AP) — Why are there so many lines in Soviet stores? Why do Soviet women spend hours lugging shopping bags long distances from stores to home? Why do cities once famed for certain products have none on sale? These are the questions being asked by the Soviet newspaper Soviet Russia in an examination of that Soviet institution, the line. "Operation line" — which investigated lines in the country's most famed department store, GUM on Red Square — started with an Oct. 17 report by three journalists who travelled south of Moscow to Tula, a city once famed for sliced, frosted pastries known as Priyaniki. Not a single Priyanik could be found because, as the reporters discovered, the pastries were made in only one Tula factory with some equipment predating the 1917 revolution.

4 babies die after receiving contaminated blood

BRISBANE (R) — A fourth baby has died in Queensland after receiving blood contaminated by AIDS, a hospital spokesman said Monday. The hospital declined to give further details on the death. The government said last month that three other babies had died after transfusions of blood donated by a 27-year-old male homosexual.

Charles, Diana to visit Italy

LONDON (R) — Prince Charles and his wife Princess Diana will visit Italy in April on a tour which will include an audience with Pope John Paul, Buckingham Palace said Monday. The visit, from April 19 to May 5, is at the invitation of the Italian government. A palace spokesman said no date had yet been fixed for the meeting with the Pope. The visit was postponed earlier this year when it became known that Princess Diana was expecting her second child, Prince